



The

RESTORER

EDITOR: KEN AUSTIN

EDITORIAL

Firstly (before I forget) may we wish all our members a Merry Christmas and enjoyable New Year.

Initially I had fears that this would be another difficult issue to fill, but two pieces of breaking good news have more than come to the rescue, so now it becomes a challenge to shoe horn it all into just four pages. Not wishing to upstage announcements at the AGM, but still needing to keep those members not attending informed via the Newsletter, distribution of this issue on the night was held back until after the AGM finished.

The first news concerns the arrangement for our club meetings.

We have been aware that our meeting room at Wivenhoe Football Social Club, whilst serving our need since having to vacate Paxman's Social Club at short notice some years ago, is not considered by several members to be located centrally enough. The need to bring forward our start time to 7.30pm to allow later use by our hosts has also made it inconvenient for some, added to which have been distractions recently experienced when FC club people need access during meetings, hence our decision to investigate alternative venues. Whilst some points remain to be finalised, we can now announce that an alternative venue has been found, which means that the December AGM on 10th December was our final occasion at Wivehoe.

In future our meetings will be held at the Stanway Rovers Sports Club. As well as being more conveniently located for more of our members, it will also allow us to revert to our previous start time - however, it does also mean that we are unable to retain our traditional First Thursday date.

Meetings will be on the THIRD Thursday of the month at 8.00pm.

This date change raised the question of the January meeting, which had been dropped because of poor attendances so close to the new year. Left unchanged this would have resulted in a period from early December to the latter part of February with no meeting, so in view of this we will, after all, meet in January. As we had not booked a speaker for January, this will just be in the form of a familiarisation gathering with a few things to nibble being provided, and an opportunity for you to bring something along to chat about.

So now we need to tell you a little about the place and give directions. There is a good size car park - lit, and without potholes! You will see two entrance doors within a few feet of each other, identified as *Members Social Club* and **Function Room**, the latter is the right hand door and where we will meet. Both rooms have a bar and we are hoping to arrange for use of the one within our room, but this is still to be finalised as I write. The building is quite modern, with a good size room, warm and furnished to a good standard.

The Location is in New Farm Road, Stanway. Directions are given under the Events Diary heading on page 4

The second, and equally important news is that the future of our rally is now looking more secure. We have had an offer from one of our members to take on the Rally Secretary's roll when Bob Starling retires.

Rally Entry Forms have been distributed to all Section Organisers and should soon be sent out to previous years exhibitors along with a Christmas Card. As before, it is not practical to avoid duplication of these where someone has previous entries in more than one section. A copy is included with this newsletter and also available to download from our web site, www.neetec.co.uk as are Stall Holder Application Forms.

Personally, I shall not have last year's problem of a pre-arranged holiday confliction, when Bob Pirie covered for me in the commentary point. This year's rally date falls conveniently later, allowing time to visit the superb Dordrecht in Steam event in Holland in late May, but I shall need to have most of the program prepared beforehand, so please try not leave your entry until after the official closing date on the form. If you know of any potential advertisers for the programme please let me know and I can then give details.

RALLY SECRETARY'S 2009 REPORT AND PROGRESS REPORT ON 2010 RALLY.

This year's rally was again thwarted by the weather, although the Saturday remained dry with above average attendance by the public, who had most probably been guided by the weather forecasts, which also put off some stallholders from attending. On Sunday it was raining from early morning making conditions poor, resulting in a very low public attendance on that day and causing ring parade delays and curtailment for heavy vehicles. The weather conditions gradually improved by mid-afternoon but was too late for high numbers of public to turn out and also the muddy car park conditions of the previous year would have been remembered, although this year I had a contingency car park arranged in the event of poor conditions or over capacity, but this was not required.

The Rally did make a small profit this year of £1507.00 with £500 each going to NEETEC and the Earls Colne Scout Group, with the balance of £507 going into the contingency account to help replenish the loss in 2008. This was thanks to the good attendance on Saturday, but having said that, the rally was successful and went well. I would like to thank all who helped in any way before, during and after, the dedicated Section Organisers and the rally Committee.

As you are all aware, as announced at last year's AGM, I will be standing down from the position of Rally Secretary after the 2010 rally, but will continue until then.

We can now say that one of our members, Matt Garwood, has offered to take on this role. Matt has been a club member for the past three years and attends the rally with his Aveling & Porter Roller and will work along with me for the 2010 rally.

The Secretary's workload had increased over the years and there will be some organisational changes during the coming year, aimed at spreading the Secretary's high workload and I have already made some of these. Matt has been elected onto the Rally Committee.

Roger Attmere becomes Rally Site organisation co-ordinator.

Gavin Copeman has taken over as Tractor Section Organiser from Roger.

Jim Roots has offered to take on the storage and transportation of rally equipment. This entails the relocation of equipment and units from Michael and Pat Culham's West Bergholt premises to Gt Wigborough next March. John Chiles will obtain quotations for Toilet Hire and Rally Plaques, then booking/ordering, having done this or my behalf for several years.

There are other tasks which also need to be delegated, but need volunteers for. Please consider if you could help in this respect. Please contact me to see about these jobs. Areas concerned are:-

Road Signage - alteration and erection of our existing Road Signs for external locations.

On-Site Signage - as above, with also some new signs to be ordered.

Camp Site Marshall - entails also being on site early on Friday morning before Stall Section organisers arrival.

Stall Section Organiser - as an observer this year, to get to know the job ready for next year.

After many years of loyal service running this important position Shirley and Michael Clement will be standing down after the 2010 rally and it would help to have a volunteer come forward this year to follow Shirley and Michael to see what is involved.

David Neame, the Motor Cycle Section Organiser, would like a volunteer to assist in setting up the section and on both rally days as he is having problems with personal mobility.

Yvonne Copeman, the Military Section Organiser would like assistance and Phillip May is now willing to help.

Coal Supply (Daw Mill or equivalent) is being investigated. It may be possible for steam engine owners to include a private order with that obtained for the rally if required; details later.

This year we have applied for National Traction Engine Trust Authorisation, the rally organisers code of practice, which we have been implementing.

From the Earls Colne Scout Group side, the Rally Treasurer, George Posner is also standing down from the day to day running, but will continue with the monetary requirements during the rally. A committee has been formed to take over all the other tasks that George was carrying out and the Scouts are very keen to continue their association with us.

The rally is the most important date in the club calendar and with the organisational changes should ensure that the rally continues for many years into the future, as without it your club would have to change as the funds from the rally maintain the club finances for which we require a good and successful rally each year.

At the conclusion of this year's rally Matt and Roger will work as a team to cover all aspects of the rally organisation and running. The rally audited accounts are available should any member like to view them.

Bob Starling, Rally Secretary

PREDICTION FULFILLED

Some members will have noticed my attempt to rename Martin Stubbins, our Chairman as *Trevor* in the AGM nominations. Fear not, it was just me fulfilling a prediction I made last year that that one day I would make this very error - you see, I had for many years worked alongside someone called Trevor Stubbins, and it was only a matter of time before reversion (or senility) caught up with me. Sorry Trevor, er, Martin I mean.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We have five new members to welcome this month -

Barbara Corder (w/o Barry), H Howard from Wivenhoe, N Bush from Alresford (sorry, first names not to hand) and Mike & Iris Tweed from East Preston, W Sussex.

Membership renewal is due. A renewal slip is repeated at the bottom of the last page. Rates unchanged.

WATCHING THE STEAM TRAINS. Steam trains passing through our area.

Two more trains passing our way. The first one being a surprise when first announced that streamlined Class A4 60019 *Bittern* was to make the first ever visit of the class to our area, traveling both ways between Victoria and Ely via Colchester. Then with just a week to go it was announced that it would be substituted and now hauled by Battle of Britain class *Tangmere*, due to "Infrastructure difficulties" - probably someone realised that it was too heavy or would not fit through Ipswich tunnel. The only consolation is that with our December meeting not being until the second Thursday and the short notice means that it has already gone before we could announce it!

Looking ahead, Britannia class 70013 *Oliver Cromwell* is due to return in the Spring on Thursday 11th March for the first usage of the re-instated Level Crossing at Sheringham, connecting the North Norfolk Railway to the the National network. The limited track layout at Cromer, where it has to reverse, can only accommodate 4 coaches + 2 loco's since track "Rationalisation" (term meaning Mostly Ripped Up), so it's passengers will split, travelling between Norwich and the North Norfolk Railway by steam in one direction, using "another train" in the opposite direction, whatever that means.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY CLUB NIGHT. Thursday 21st at 8.00pm.

A familiarisation meeting to check out our new Meeting Room at Stanway.

Not planing a January meeting meant no speaker was booked, so this will just be a social meeting to check it out and have a nibble and natter. A few bits to eat will be provided and you may wish to bring something along to show. There are plenty of tables and chairs. Note that we meet at our old time of 8.00pm.

FEBRUARY CLUB NIGHT. Thursday 18th at 8.00pm.

75 Years Development of the Paxman Diesel Engine. Presentation by Richard Carr.

Anyone who looked at the splendid web site recommended in the Restorer a year or two back or read last February's Old Glory will have some idea of the amount of material that Richard has on this subject. You may know someone who worked there that you wish to invite along as a guest. Have a look at www.paxmanhistory.org.uk when you have a few hours to spare.

THURSFORD CONCERT Saturday 19th December.

This is fully booked. The coach departs from Church Lane, Lt Tey at 8.30 (usual parking location), with pickups at Cowdray Centre, Stratford St Mary and Ipswich Tesco and as before, a stop on the way in Holt.

If at the last minute you can not make it, please advise Pauline to avoid un-necessary delay.

REPORT ON RECENT EVENTS

OCTOBER CLUBNIGHT. *Made in Ipswich*

Illustrated talk by Brian Dyes from the transport museum on that town's engineering companies.

Brian had much material from the museum's own archive to utilise for this interesting evening. Firstly it was surprising to realise just how many engineering companies were once established there, and secondly just how few now remain. Ipswich is fortunate to have this volunteer run museum, which in addition to the transport related side, has an extensive collection of archive material and engineering products of the town. It is unlikely that much of this would have survived if relying solely on public resources. Brian had no need to refer to notes, having an amazing recall of the local area history.

WHEELS BY LAMPLIGHT Saturday 17th October, 7.00pm public opening.

The usual high participation of club members was evident. Some of us found that we were allocated a different spot for our displays from last year, due to a shuffle around of some of the museum's vehicle exhibit locations which get moved outside to make room for us. A good turn out again, with good public attendance. It was obvious that the museum's Ipswich Tram restoration is now having the final touches applied, looking splendid and worthy of a national award. The 2010 event will be on Saturday 16th October.

NOVEMBER CLUBNIGHT. *Flatford - Before & After.*

National Trust talk by Simon Gallup.

Simon works for the National Trust at Flatford Mill and utilised the locations found in John Constable's paintings as a framework for our virtual *Before and After* tour of the local area. Presented using two screens side by side so that paintings and present day scenes could simultaneously be projected and compared. We started off naturally enough at Flatford, with each scene being commented on, not just in relation to the paintings, but also on how scenes have changed today along with numerous interesting asides, finishing up at Dedham Mill. Several questions from the floor concluded a successful evening.

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT NOW, PHIL

To the growing local population of steam engines is added Phil Copeman's latest addition - nothing less than a Fowler Z7 Ploughing Engine! I don't know any more right now, but believe that there were some repatriated from Zimbabwe some years back. From a photo it looks to be restored - more when I know.

MEMBERS MARKET PLACE (Send or telephone your free adverts to Ken Austin)

WANTED -

Under cover winter storage space for Trabant car and Barkas van. Anything considered - Colchester area preferred.
Richard Hemington

EVENTS DIARY More details when known. *Any omissions do not imply an event is not taking place.*

CLUB NIGHTS ARE HELD IN THE STANWAY ROVERS SOCIAL CLUB FUNCTION ROOM, COLCHESTER. Normally held on the third Thursday, 8.00pm. This is in New Farm Road, Stanway. Sat-Nav **CO3 0GJ**.

Directions - From the A12 Colchester Bypass - Exit at the A1124 Eight Ash Green / Stanway interchange (no.27) and head towards town, then at the two roundabouts on Yeomanry Way exit both at 11 o'clock and aim towards Colchester along the A1124 London Road and you will soon see the mini-roundabout hump at the end of Villa Road. Just Into Villa Road take the first left into Chapel Road, then after the zebra crossing, as the road bends you will see New Farm Road on your left. Our location is found 400 yards along on your left, Identified by a brick wall with a Diamond embossed design just before the entrance, or by counting orange street lamps - being before the 5th from last, directly opposite Essex Traffic Police vehicle compound entrance.

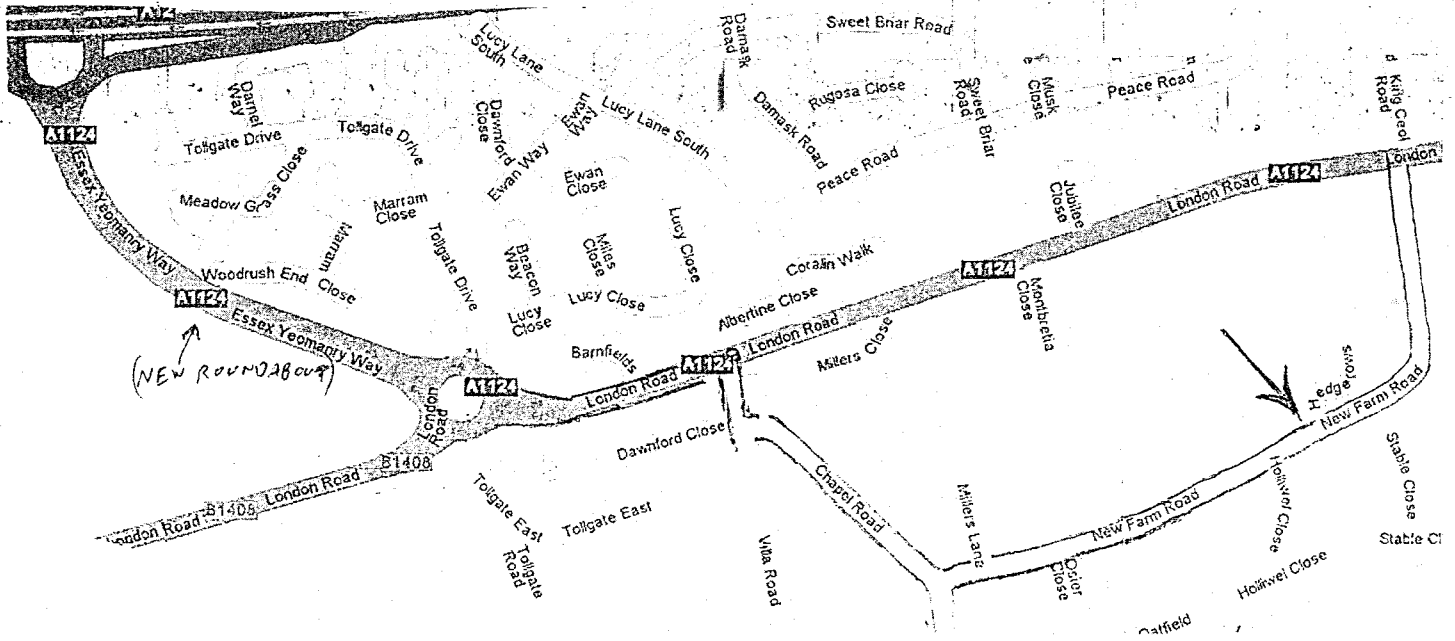
Alternatively, if approaching locally from Colchester along London Road, turn left directly into New Farm Road.

MEMBERS GUESTS ARE WELCOME at normal Club night meetings.

FULL 2010 EVENT DETAILS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE.

LISTING CLUB MEETING DETAILS WELL IN ADVANCE MEANS THAT SOME CHANGES ARE POSSIBLE LATER.

- Thu 10 Dec **Clubnight. AGM & Buffet** - Note 2nd Thursday.
- Sat 19 Dec **Thursford Christmas Concert.** Club Coach 8.30am
- Thu 21 January **CLUBNIGHT** Check It Out evening at our new venue. No speaker
- Thu 18 February **CLUBNIGHT** 75 Years Development of the Paxman Diesel Engine.
- Thu 18 March **CLUBNIGHT** History of Colchester, part 2. Talk by David Austin.
- Thu 15 April **CLUBNIGHT** Air Ambulance Talk
- Sat 24 April Cheffins Vintage Auction
- w/e 24,25 April Colne Valley Railway Vintage Vehicle Weekend. Forms from Pauline or cvrshop@ googlemail.com
- Thu 21 May **CLUBNIGHT** Colchesters Dutch Quarter. Talk by Roy Walters
- Fr-Su 28-30 May Dordt in Stoom - Dordrecht Holland. 250,000 visitors. [www. dordtinstoom.nl](http://www.dordtinstoom.nl)
- Thu 10 June **CLUB Rally Field set up evening**
- w/e 12,13 June **ALDHAM RALLY**



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COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN - Martin Stubbins; SECRETARY - Adrian Fox; VICE-CHAIRMAN - John Chiles;
MEMBERSHIP SEC.- Pauline Mattin; TREASURER - Roger Attmere; RALLY SEC.- Bob Starling;
EDITOR- Ken Austin; DISTRIBUTION - Adam Munson; LAY MEMBERS -Jim Roots, Dave Culham, Simon Fox.

Please return to Membership Secretary, Pauline Mattin, Jesmond, Church Lane, Lt Tey, Colchester. CO6 1HX.

Please renew the following NEETEC Memberships

Name(s) & Address

I enclose £ (Payable to NEETEC). Please note below any change to address, postcode or telephone.
Optional - Email address (only used to notify short notice changes).

