

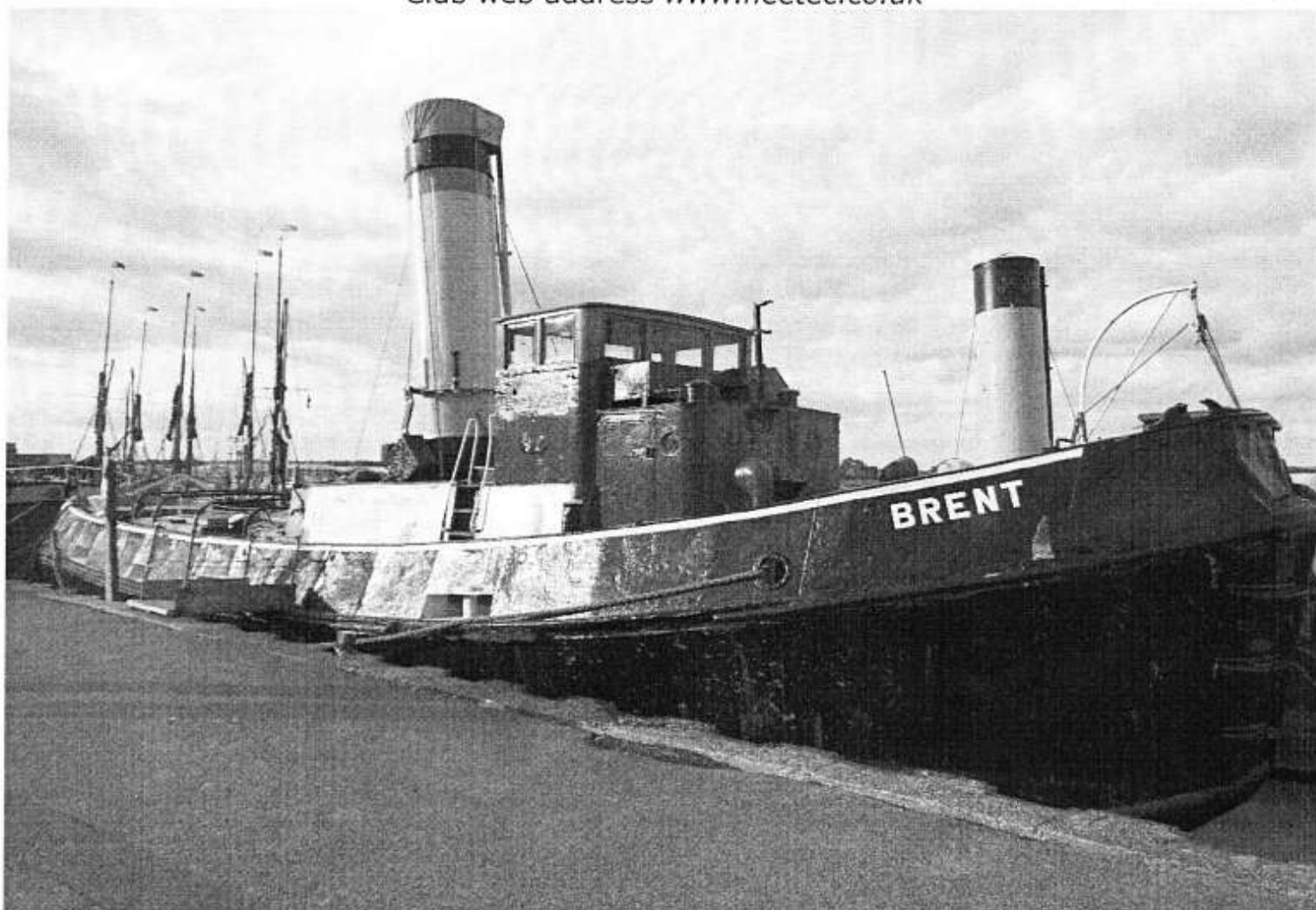


The

# RESTORER

EDITOR: KEN AUSTIN

Club web address [www.neetec.co.uk](http://www.neetec.co.uk)



Our evening visit to Maldon in August to inspect TID 159, the subject of a recent clubnight talk

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### 2020 NEETEC COMMITTEE

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SECRETARY – Margaret Hermon  
 MEMBERSHIP SEC.- Marion Wright  
 RALLY CHAIRMAN.- Roger Attmere  
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## **EDITORIAL**

As usual, the December issue is a challenge to fill, with many event dates still to be found for the Diary page, which means I have to waffle on even more than usual to fill the space. Part if this can be taken up by wishing all our members a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year – it takes up more space than just saying Seasons Greetings, also using up an extra line!

Sadly we have to report that Ken Crees passed away on the 20th October 2019.

Ken was one of the founder members of the original club, then named the North East Essex Historical Farm Machinery Association. The first gathering of the old club was held in a small yard in Thorpe-le-Soken, which he rented from a local farmer and was Vice Chairman for 2/3 years. His interests also included Fairground musical instruments and was the proud owner of a 30-key Leach organ.

He was the father of John and elder brother of Rob, both who are still long time members of the club. We offer our condolences to his family.

I hear that the Kettle Autojumble is looking for a new venue as it will not be on it's previous site.

I wonder if it will keep the same name if not at Kettleburgh - after all, Aldham does just that.

The Bedfordshire Steam Fair is back this year, on a new site beside the A428 six miles from Bedford.

The chosen charity for 2020 will be The Earls Colne Scout & Guide Group.

We have a new Membership Secretary, Marion Wright taking over from Christine Attmere after many years.

## **ALDHAM RALLY NOTES**

To overcome the midnight oil previously consumed to achieve Sunday payouts to vendors this was changed to postal, but we now realise there is a problem. Where small payouts total less than £5 the 15% commission charged does not cover the cost of the stamp and envelope, so the rally committee is looking into the best way to overcome this. Possibly we will deduct this cost from payouts, as per the provision on the Auction log sheet, which has not been applied in the past. Electronic payout is a possibility, although data protection of personal account details may complicate this. No decision has yet been made.

The practice of leaving unsold tyres at the auction or disposing of them in the skip is incurring high disposal costs. In future only tyres of saleable quality will be accepted, with costs reclaimed from the vendor if those unsold are not removed from site.

The rally date for 2020 is moved to one week later on 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June, just for the one year as the site is required as a wedding venue for the site owner's son. We expect to revert to our normal slot in the future. Thankfully there is no local date clash with other events. The tractor parade will be split into two parts on BOTH days.

My past rally role as Ring Co-ordinator has still to be filled, so please give this vacancy some thought. I can still be available for a gradual hand over to explain the role. Contact Roger Attmere or myself for info.

You get a ring-side view (not necessarily a seat all day) but does reduce your options if an exhibitor.

Most planning is done at home, like the timing schedule, but parade routing and stacking together with ensuring the timing is controlled is on the day, as is co-ordinating the Section Commentators, identifying each exhibit number parading and feeding each information slip to them if required. This takes a bit of getting used to, extracting slips from the bundle and reinserting it back in the correct place ready for the next days parade. My arthritic fingers and thumbs make this difficult for me now, but I still have a good range of expletives to pass on for use when exhibitors do not display their number!

We are anticipating an increase in the number of steam exhibits in 2020, so the bill for coal will increase. We are looking at ways to mitigate this, possibly by getting companies to sponsor engines for a cost which will permit them to advertise ringside and be mentioned in the programme. Do you know of anyone?

We are looking for someone to take on the commentary for the Steam Section parade, Martin Stubbins having stepped down after several years.

I have been hoping to hand over responsibility for producing the Rally Programme for some time without success, but have partially passed this over to our printer, who now holds the complete previous copy on PC which will make it simpler to update each year. Please contact me if you can take this on. Section organisers are not affected by this, other than needing to provide their listing in a set format, preferably a PC Word file, but for now I can still produce copy from hand written lists if necessary for any section unable to do so.

The field Clear-up was very short of helpers last time, so please lend a hand if you can. Roger may make a volunteer list so tasks can be allocated, it being difficult to allocate tasks at this busy time when occupied.

## **STEAM TRAINS** Steam hauled trains due to pass through our territory. [steamdreams.co.uk](http://steamdreams.co.uk)

Saturday **11<sup>th</sup> April** - Stratford 0630 pick up's at Shenfield 0655, Chelmsford 0715, Colchester 0800, Ipswich 0830, Bury 0900 and Ely 1010, destination Lincoln at 1230. (The return will change over to diesel power at Ely).

Haulage will be class B1 61306 'Mayflower'. Fares from £109. *Call Steam Dreams on 01483 209888 to book.*

Saturday **23<sup>rd</sup> April** - Kings Cross 0815/2230, Cambridge 1000/2030, Harwich 1200/1810. Fare from £99.

The **same day** it caters for us locals on an East Anglia circular tour, Harwich 1345/1650. (Diesel on branch) £49.

Saturday **27<sup>th</sup> September** - Liverpool Street 0920/2140, Lowestoft 1225/1710. Fare £109.

## **REPORT ON RECENT CLUB EVENTS**

### **OCTOBER CLUB NIGHT** Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>

The History of Clacton by *George Hardwick*.

The meeting started with a presentation by the organiser from Colchester Fire Station, who thanked the club for its participation in the recent carnival parade. He announced that they were organising another in 2020, just a month before the Aldham Rally and hoped for our participation again, recognising that the timing gives a good advertising opportunity for Aldham.

The meeting itself on the History of Clacton, well presented by George Hardwick, illustrated with interesting and informative commentary on scenes from the past, from the time when Great Clacton was the centre of population, with the town of today only developing once the pier was built to attract visitors by paddle steamer and later by rail. My mis-spent youth was in Great Clacton, so it was especially interesting to me. There is a museum of local history in Clacton, in the library nearly opposite the town hall in Station Road, open Tuesday and Saturday mornings.

### **WHEELS BY LAMPLIGHT**

With no home football match to fit in this year I had time to set up the lamps, which takes a couple of hours or so if not already fueled, so the opportunity was taken to nip home for lunch before returning to light up. Some vehicles were moved outside to make room for the lamp display which gave a rare opportunity for a broadside photograph of the Ipswich Tram showing its lining out in detail. The now nearly completed Cambridge horse tram was also positioned to allow a good uncluttered shot. Several other exhibits had also benefited from recent repaints.

It always takes another hour afterwards to pack up and load the vehicle, which then never seems to have as much space as before. The next day is spent unloading and hopefully not finding a lamp not extinguished the night before and now stinking the car out! After decanting the paraffin, wick trimming and finding places to stow them away again the day has nearly gone.

### **NOVEMBER CLUB NIGHT** Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>

Radio Caroline (The Boat That Rocked) by *Ray Clarke, BBC Essex Presenter*.

This was probably the best attended club night ever, with well over 50 people present – it must have had a plug on the radio.

This was not just about Radio Caroline but a history of pirate radio ship broadcasting, covering just about every ship/boat/vessel used for this purpose. These all had past histories, some dubious – possibly like some of the D.J.'s. Many photo's of these ships were displayed and familiar names of these and the D.J.'s recalled, along with fascinating tales from that time. Such was the wealth of material that a book could be written on the subject and indeed Ray has done just that and of course this was available on the night with several sold. One of the old Trinity House light vessels, LV18 berthed at Harwich near Halfpenny Pier, was recently used to celebrate the anniversary of pirate radio and made some now legal broadcasts by original presenters. We saw this on an earlier club visit to Harwich RNLI Station in 2013.

## **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

Membership Sec: Marion Wright 07704 183972 57 New Road, Tiptree, Colchester CO5 0HW

*Newsletter back-issues can be sent by email in pdf format on request by contacting the Editor.*

### **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome back one of our past members, Trevor Woolner from Boxted.

**MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED ON 1<sup>st</sup> November** (unless first joining at or after the last Aldham rally) and can be renewed now, either at club night or by post.

The period of grace before membership is considered to have fully lapsed is the end of the year, with members concerned having a final reminder note enclosed in their December newsletter, but only if posted.

New membership cards include committee contact details, but can only show the existing committee as they are printed before the AGM. Only members renewing by the AGM are entitled to vote at that time.

Rates remain as last year - **Adult** £10.00; **Joint** (husband wife/partner) £15 with entitlement to one copy of the Restorer; **Family** (includes all listed juniors as members) £20; **Individual Child** (under 16 on 1st November - and having own newsletter posted) £2.50.

Newsletter back-issues can be sent by email in pdf format on request by contacting the Editor.

A postal renewal slip is provided for use if not renewing at club nights - please return to the new Membership Secretary- **Marion Wright**, 57 New Road, Tiptree, Colchester. CO5 0HW

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### **Please renew the following NEETEC Memberships**

Name(s) .....I enclose £.....Payable to NEETEC.

*Please note below any change to address, postcode, telephone or add your email.*

I / we authorise the club to hold my details on computer and understand that these will only be used for club purposes and not divulged to any other organisation. I understand that my contact details may appear in any advertisement that I place in the newsletter and could be used to contact me if required at short notice.

Signed .....

## **FORTHCOMING CLUB EVENTS**

### **FEBRUARY CLUB NIGHT** Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>

Ipswich Transport Museum Presentation by Brian Dyes.

### **MARCH CLUB NIGHT** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>. Presentation by well known engine enthusiast Allan Cullen

### **CLUB COACH TRIP**

The committee are looking into running a coach outing in 2020. Nothing yet decided, but suggestions include- Bletchley Park and Milton Keynes Museum.

Romney Hythe & Dymchurch Railway, where the Paxman built narrow gauge steam locomotives operate.

The Royal Engineers Museum at Chatham along with some other attraction in that area. Local options include the cliff top B of B memorial near Folkestone and the restored Folkestone harbour railway pier and station.

(We did the Royal Engineers museum some years ago and combined it then with Crossness pumping station).

Papplewick pumping station with it's ornate beam engines, along with the Midland Railway.

Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey, although their leaflet makes it look as to be aimed at youngsters.

### **MEBCC COACH TRIP**

The Monks Eleigh Bygones Collectors Club announced their 2020 holiday for 7<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> October well in advance.

This is based in Abingdon with 4 nights dinner,B&B. £360 pp for twin/double room, £399 single. Open to all.

Visiting Waddesdon Manor, Vintage Bus & Morris Museum, Crocodiles of the World and a free day in Oxford.

Contact Bev Walker . Book now, pay £50 pp deposit by 1<sup>st</sup> January. Pick-up at King's Coaches.

### **EVENTS DIARY** *Omissions or ? does not imply an event not taking place, just not seen dates confirmed yet.*

MEMBERS OCCASIONAL GUESTS ARE WELCOME WITHOUT CHARGE AT NORMAL CLUB NIGHTS. 8.00pm

**DIRECTIONS TO OUR STANWAY ROVERS MEETING ROOM ARE ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD.**

*If required, a Directions Sheet with Map can be obtained by email or post, by contacting the Editor.*

-	January	As usual - <b>no club meeting</b> this month.		
Thur	20 Feb	<b>Club night.</b> ITM Presentation on the activities and archive, by Brian Dyes.		
Fr-Sa	28-29 Feb	Chappel Winter Beer Festival.	CO6 2DS	01206 242524
Thur	19 March	<b>Club Night.</b> Presentation by Alan Cullen		
Sat	11 April	Steam train passing locally. Stratford to Lincoln. Details in Newsletter.		
Su-Mo	12-13 April	Chatham Historic Dockyard Festival of Steam.		
Thu	16 April	<b>Club Night</b> Details to be confirmed		
Sat	18 April	Cheffins Vintage Auction, Sutton, Ely	CB6 2QT	
w/e	25-26 April	Safron Walden Crank-up. <u>New Site</u> at Carver Barracks	CB102YA	07882 175438
Sun	26 April	National Drive It Day.		
w/e	2-3 May	Stradsett Park Vintage rally. Secretary@nvtec-ea.org.uk	PE33 9HA	01945 880091
Sun	3 May	<b>The Mattins Little Tey</b> Crank-up		
Sun	3 May	Ipswich - Felixtowe Road Run. Christchurch Park from 0830. Starts 1100.		01473 715666
Sun	3 May	HCVC London - Brighton Run		
Fr-Su	8-10 May	Bressingham Heritage Steam Gala.	IP22 2AA	01379 686900
Su	10 May	National Mills Day		
w/e	16-17 May	Old Lawnmower Club rally at Milton Keynes Rural Life Museum.	MK12 5EL	
w/e	16-17 May	Stonham Barns Steam & Vintage Show	IP14 6AT	01449 711111
Thu	21 May	<b>Club Night</b> Details to be confirmed		
Sat	23 May	Steam train passing locally. Kings Cross, Cambridge, Harwich. Details in Newsletter.		
Sat	23 May	Steam train passing locally. Harwich - Harwich, East Anglia Circular. Details in Newsletter.		
Sa-Mo	23-25 May	Strumpshaw Steam Rally	NR13 4HR	07753 182065
We-Th	27-28 May	Suffolk Show		
Fr-Su	5-7 June	Dordt in Stoom, Dordrecht, Holland. ( <i>Easy via Harwich - Hoek overnight ferries</i> )		
w/e	30-31 May	Woolpit Steam Rally <a href="http://woolpit-steam.org.uk">woolpit-steam.org.uk</a>	IP14 3JX	
Thu	11 June	<b>Field set-up evening</b> for our Aldham Rally.		
w/e	13-14 June	<b>Aldham Rally</b> Chalkney Meadows, White Colne	CO6 2PP	
Sun	14 June	Euston Park Rural pastimes. A1088. <a href="mailto:eustonruralpastimes@hotmail.com">eustonruralpastimes@hotmail.com</a>	IP24 2QL	
w/e	27-28 June	Heveningham Hall Country Fair	IP19 0PN	
Sat	11 July	<b>Tendring Show</b>		
w/e	11-12 July	Cambridgeshire Steam Rally, Quy Park	CB25 9AF	01954 718610
Fr-Su	17-19 July	Weeting Steam Rally.	IP27 0QF	01842 810317
w/e	8-9 Aug	Essex HMVA Echo's of History Show. Military+ Barons Lane Purleigh.	CM9 6PF	
w/e	22-23 Aug	Lincolnshire Steam & Vintage Rally, County Showground.	LN2 2NA	01507 605937
Th-Fr	27-28 Aug	Clacton Air Show	CO15 1NW	
Th-Mo	27-31 Aug	Great Dorset Steam Fair.	DT11 8HX	01258 860361
Tu-Sa	8-12 Sept	Chappel Summer Beer Festival.	CO6 2DS	01206 242524
w/e	12-13 Sept	Haddenham Steam Rally.	CB6 3PT	07501 862116
Fr-Su	18-20 Sept	Bedfordshire Steam Fair. <u>New location</u> - Turvey House, A428 Bedford-N'hampton Road. MK43 8EL		
w/e	19-20 Sept	Henham Steam Rally	NR34 8AQ	
Tues	27 Sept	Steam train passing locally. Liverpool Street to Lowestoft. Details in Newsletter.		
w/e	3-4 Oct	Prickwillow Ploughing Festival	CB7 5DD	01353 688360
Sun	4 Oct	FMPS Vintage Working Day. Grove Farm, Gt Henney	CO10 7LT	01787 269214
w/e	7-8 Nov	Newark Vintage Tractor & Heritage Show. Winthorpe, Newark.	NG24 2NY	01636 705796