

HISTELEEC NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH WESTERN ELECTRICITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Web Site : www.swehs.co.uk

No. 46

DECEMBER 2010

WPD POWER LINES

For those who are not from SWEB or WPD, Power Lines is the house magazine of WPD and the November edition featured the Society in a two page spread. We hope the publicity will encourage new members from the WPD staff to join us. We were delighted with the coverage. Sharon Cross from Corporate Communications visited us at Cairns Road with photographer Jim Whitehead.

NEW GOVERNMENT POLICY

The new Government energy policy looks more or less the same as the previous Government, but may be I have missed a little tinkering here and there? Chris Huhne stated in October the "new" policy as follows :-

1. Reducing demand for energy – new legislation "the Green Deal" to give households and businesses the opportunity to make energy efficient improvements, but doesn't say how.
2. Renewable Energy – particularly off-shore wind farms. Government to create a Green Investment Bank to support private sector investment in low-carbon energy generation.
David Cameron confirmed that they will honour the £60M funding to upgrade ports servicing wind farms.
3. Nuclear Energy – New nuclear stations will be built with no public subsidy, which is expecting a lot with little or no encouragement! Elsewhere I have read that the Government intends to underwrite the cost overruns in dealing with radioactive waste and cleaning up after an accident.
4. To ensure that coal and gas can be used still reducing carbon emissions, the Government is supporting four carbon capture and storage schemes.

Also it has been stated that the decision on the Severn Barrage is being deferred until 2015. Since then it looks as if Chris Huhne is intending to make some radical changes to the energy pricing structure to penalise fossil fuel generators and give sufficient incentives to nuclear builders.

LAMP LABELLING

Under a new directive from the EU, lamp manufacturers will be obliged to label lamp products in lumens from 1st September, defining the light output, in order to cover the various new lamp designs involving reduced energy usage. I wonder how long it will take us to get used to it?

WEEKEND AWAY APRIL 2012

After much heart-searching the committee abandoned going to Manchester as too difficult to organise and opted to arrange a weekend holiday in the Oxford area, with the idea of visiting such places as Ashmolean Museum and Science Museum reserve collection at Broughton near Swindon. David Cousins agreed to head up a small working group to make the necessary arrangements.

LATEST DISTRIBUTION ASSET SALES

EDF have finally sold their British distribution companies for £5.8 M to Cheung Kong Infrastructure, keeping the supply businesses. EON is planning to sell its distribution business Central Networks to foreign investors, whilst retaining the retail and generation businesses. Power grids and distribution businesses are attractive to pension and sovereign wealth funds as they offer regular and reliable long term revenue.

WASTED LIGHT BULBS

The Energy Saving Trust recently issued the results of a survey regarding the free issue of 360 million low energy light bulbs by the six big energy companies in Britain. They found that at least a third of these are lying idly in boxes in people's homes unused. Is that the case with you? The energy companies don't care, they did it as the cheapest way to satisfy the legal obligation under the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target, but of course it assumes that all the issued bulbs are used!! They would have been better advised to insulate people's homes, but it probably would have cost more.

SEVERN BARRAGE

I have been very keen on a barrage for both generating power and improving the marine conditions in the Severn Estuary. The Government has concluded that it does not see a strategic case to bring forward a tidal energy scheme at this time, but wishes to keep the option open for future consideration. The decision has been taken in the context of wider climate and energy goals, including relative costs, benefits and impacts of a Severn tidal scheme, as compared to other options for generating low carbon electricity. e.g. Nuclear and Wind. The decision not to rule out a scheme in the future recognizes the significant UK resource that the Severn estuary presents. Although not referred to in this statement by the Government I suspect that the issue, the impact of a barrage on shipping, may have been a significant factor. The Barrage scheme would be able to provide 5% of UK consumption and comprised 216 Turbine Generators totalling 8640 MW.

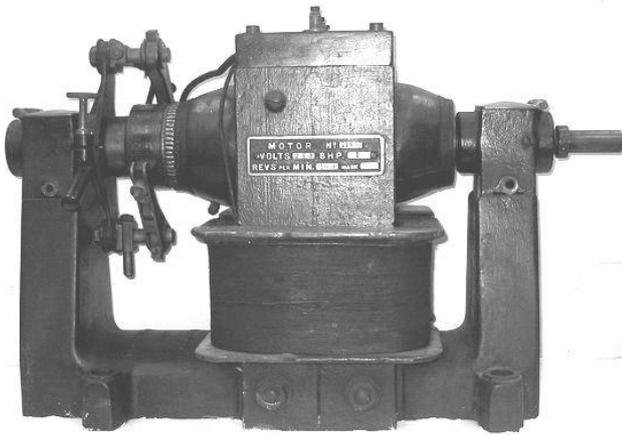
Mike Hield

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL ORGAN MOTOR

(Following the publicity in Power Lines, Jim Lister contacted us having seen us with the old organ motor, a prime display item in or Museum)

Moving to Bristol from Burnley in 1955, I was given the job of developing off-peak storage heating systems to include under-floor warming etc. In 1959 because of previous experience in Burnley, I was given the job of DC/AC changeover of the remaining DC consumers in Bristol consisting of lifts and cranes at Bristol Docks and printing machines etc.

One of the most interesting items was the Bristol Cathedral Organ blower involving a 1hp Crompton Parkinson motor driving a set of blowers through a cycle type wheel. There were two other DC motors each of 3 ½ hp which were part of the organ structure and would have been impossible to remove. The 1hp motor was transported to my office on the ground floor of Electricity House, Colston Avenue, when after a short while the SWEB Chairman took a fancy to it and had it exhibited in his own office!!



To convert the whole of the organ blowing system of 10hp, I brought in a company trading under the name of DISCUS and following tests a 17 ½ hp 3phase motor was installed to take on the blowing system.

Moving to Cornwall in 1961 and after a few years, the Engineering Council set up a recruitment campaign with a local exhibition in Truro. SWEB were asked to exhibit and I got the motor sent down from Bristol and displayed it alongside a modern 1hp single phase AC motor. The motor was returned to Bristol and the last time I saw it, it was in the foyer of Bristol District Offices at Feeder Road, where it was in an extremely poor condition.

Checking old Bristol Corporation records I did find out that it had been installed in 1900 and rated at the equivalent of ten filament lamps. At the time of its removal, Crompton Parkinson were interested in buying it, but SWEB were not interested in selling it. When removing the motor, it sustained some damage to the wooden terminal case but was competently repaired by the in-house carpenter.

Jim Lister ex-Commercial Engineer, Bristol Central District

TORQUAY HISTORY

Peter Lamb is proposing to write-up the history of the Torquay Undertaking into a booklet form and is looking for a fellow author/researcher in Devon, please contact him if interested on 01275 463160.

WIND POWER

The UK wind energy industry celebrated reaching 5GW of installed capacity by the completion of the Thanet Wind Farm recently, which has 100 turbines sufficient to supply 200,000 homes when the wind is blowing!

Clipper Windpower based on Tyneside developing the largest turbines, mega-turbines the size of the London Eye, is in financial difficulties due to fixing faulty turbines for its America wind farm customers.

SWEHS SUPPORT TV COMPANIES

During the last six months we have been helping two TV companies. BBC4 approached us about putting them in touch with many of our members to support a programme "The Secret Life of the National Grid", which started screening on Tuesday the 26th October. Only one of the contacts provided was used, who was member Barry Riley's wife Eileen, who was a past Home Economist (demonstrator) with NORWEB & MEB, shown on 2nd November. Many of us were disappointed not to be involved.

We all thought that John Ferrier had had more success with Lion TV as reported in the last issue with the BBC2 programme called "The Edwardian Farm", which he participated in, but that went pear-shaped – read his report!! We reproduce below a picture of Eileen Riley demonstrating a new cooker with NORWEB :-



EILEEN RILEY LEFT

FILMING SAGA AT MORWELLHAM QUAY

We were approached by Lion TV Company with a request for representation of SWEHS at a filming session at Morwellham Quay on the River Tamar in mid-west Devon. The filming was in August to be for a series of 12 programmes for BBC2 entitled "The Edwardian Farm".

Wanting to show our Society in its best light (every pun intended) I thought that a demonstration of some of our artefacts may be considered appropriate rather than just a normal TV interview so I contacted David Cousins. He selected about eight items he considered suitable and transferred them to my car for transit further westwards at our next committee meeting.

The filming day came dry but with a chilly wind blowing at Morwellham and on arrival at 0930 I received a compulsory cup of coffee. I was taken to a site cottage which was being used as storage and ill-fitted out in appropriate attire – Harris Tweed jacket, rounded collared white shirt with studs, tie and cloth cap – quite the Edwardian Farmer in best clothes for market day!

All dressed up and ready to go I had to wait until the film crew had returned from their first shot of the day at Cotehele House nearby. They duly arrived at about 1100 and I joined the party on the quayside where it was evident that for the previous days filming the scene was a country fair at the turn of the century. Two portable tables were set up in a tent and our appliances laid out as required by a member of the crew. I later discovered this was the sound man and as each other member appeared, cameraman, director, and various females each wanted the layout revised.

When all had eventually agreed a shout went up – "Where's the telephone?", whereupon a very large cardboard box was produced and a young lady assistant proceeded to unwrap miles of bubblewrap from within, eventually revealing a 'sit up & beg' telephone of the period and placed on the table. Then another young lady decided the setting should have a placard announcing this was "ELECTRO-CULTURE". She promptly acquired about 8 x A4 sheets of cardboard from her briefcase, sellotaped them together, felt tip penned those words across the result and concluded by sticking it up as a background to our interview.

Present also throughout the morning was another victim like me, dressed appropriately who had been introduced as 'an expert on electricity' and would be interviewed by the programme presenter with myself in the style of a three-way conversation. This lady had travelled from Newcastle-on-Tyne with her family, all having stayed overnight in a hotel nearby, so she must have been thought important to the plot.

At about this time the presenter arrived and was introduced as "Peter". It was evident that Peter had had a very good evening previously and was feeling very delicate. When all was ready the young lady assistants vacated the tent leaving just the soundman with his pole mounted microphone in the tent. The cameraman had set

up his equipment outside the tent with the camera inside on its telescope arm.

The filming began at about 1200 and commenced by Peter asking the 'expert' and myself to converse together about electricity on farms prior to 1910. Starting with the social scene of electricity in the home we generated a discussion encompassing amongst other things the lack of electricity in rural areas at that time, private generation, mainly hydro, being confined to large country estates. In such mansions, farmers as visitors would possibly see the appliances that were laid out and which I was asked to explain in more detail. Commencing with the telephone I highlighted the lack of a dial and explained the system of operators using plugs in the early telephone exchanges, and stressed the very low level of safety of electrical appliances at that time, in comparison with modern standards. The working demo of old light bulbs was very attractive and the stick vacuum cleaner intriguing. Other main points of note were the similarity of the electric kettle to modern units, as was the basic design of an iron. However the safety of the supply system of this from an overhead light socket was compared with the lack of protection of the bowl heater. The Rogers Vitalator claim to cure all ailments, aches and pains was considered laughable.

The filming was completed at 1400 when we adjourned to the Ship Inn for lunch provided that had been ordered from the menu during the filming – chips with everything, including cottage pie!! Altogether about 12 people were in attendance in various guises as crew and in conversation I established that the telephone had been hired from a theatrical supplier at an appreciable cost and that Lion TV had budgeted for donating funds in return for the use of our artefacts. I speedily accepted the standard offer of £150 on behalf of the Society, changed back into civvies and left at 1530.

I returned the appliances to David en route to a holiday in Warwickshire. I have received the cheque and had confirmed that transmission was scheduled to commence on 10th November, BBC2 9pm, 12 episodes and ours was the final episode. But days later I received from Lion TV another letter of confirmation of transmission but which also stated that due to an excess of storylines my input had been edited out!!

I suspect that we were too truthful in pointing out the lack of electricity on Edwardian Farms and that subsequent research by Lion TV has verified this. As an epilogue, I turned on the Telly last night for the first episode only to find it had gone out at 8pm. Must watch the final episode to see whether 'Madam Expert' has been edited out also!!

John Ferrier

AUTUMN TALK

Our first talk this Autumn took place at Cairns Road, Bristol on 9th October with 30 members and friends attending, following a buffet lunch at the local pub. The talk "Victorian Servants" was excellent given by a local family historian, Pat Hase. Pat had researched specially for us the larger houses in the local Redland area, which gave us a fascinating insight into those times.

COLDHARBOUR MILL VISIT

On a chilly but sunny Sunday morning in late October 25 members and guests met up at Coldharbour Mill for our last visit of the year. On arrival some of us found the large car park already surprisingly full and had to resort to street parking. It was the start of half-term week and the last steaming day of the year for the mill, so we were not the only visitors! Those arriving early had a chance to look around the site prior to our booked lunch, for which we were thankful to have reserved tables. Following lunch and another general look around we assembled for our special guided tour. We were taken up to the first floor of the mill, not open to the general public, where the history of the mill was explained and the early mechanisation of the spinning process demonstrated.

The original mill site had been acquired by Thomas Fox in 1799. He erected a new and much larger building to spin woollen yarns, having seen the development of mechanisation of the spinning process in the North at places such as Arkwright's Cromford Mills. His new mill was water powered, initially employing an undershot wheel. However, because of increased power requirements, in 1821 this was replaced with a high breast shot water wheel, the largest in the South West. It was explained that the limited fall of the river Culm within the site boundary had imposed constraints on the design of the water wheel. In the early 20th century steam power took over.

Our guide then explained the work processes involved during the early days of the mill. The fleeces were washed in the river, using the locally available soap wort plant. After drying they were then carded by hand to draw out the wool fibres. With mechanisation of the spinning process it was necessary to develop carding machines to maintain the required supply rate for the spinning machines. An elaborate carding machine was demonstrated for us, as well as a scribbling machine, the next production stage, where the wool fibres were drawn together prior to spinning. The spinning process had been mechanised by the invention of the spinning mule by Samuel Compton and one of these machines was also demonstrated and were often watched over by young children. It was important that broken threads were quickly spotted and joined back together by twisting, since payment was based on the number of full bobbins wound. These children would therefore often be found scrabbling around on the floor underneath the machinery as it continued in operation. Understandably, early health and safety legislation, brought into being during the nineteenth century, focussed on such activities! Although the mill owners were Quakers and looked after their workers reasonably well the working day was 12 hours, from 6.0am to 6.0pm. A bell was rung 5 minutes before starting time and anyone arriving more than 10 minutes late was locked out, so losing a day's pay!

Our tour continued on the ground floor, an area open to all visitors. Here the spinning process was demonstrated on comparatively modern machinery, starting with the 'tops' (short lengths of bunched fibres) brought in from elsewhere and ending with the finishing frame. With each successive machine the fibres were further drawn

out, twisted and rewound under tension onto fresh bobbins. From an initial starting length of around 1 yard the final thread was drawn out 13,720 times in successive stages, i.e. to achieve a final length of approx $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles!! The mill was particularly noted for Fox's Puttees, a boot legging. These were first manufactured in 1894, on a circular knitting machine designed for the war office, with over 12 million being produced during World War I.

Finally, the workings of a multi-shuttle weaving machine were explained and its operation demonstrated, again a very noisy operation. At the end of our tour, we viewed the in-steam former power source for the mill – a Pollit and Wigzell 300hp steam engine with its Lancashire boiler, as well as an 1867 Kittoe & Brotherhood beam engine donated from another site. Finally, there was the opportunity to see the Fox Gallery, World War II exhibition, working model of the Uffculme branch railway and millennium panels of the five villages in the upper Culm valley, before taking a final cup of tea, visiting the shop and heading home. *Chris Buck*

400kV LINE LATEST

The North Somerset papers have reported recently that the preferred route will be published in early 2011 taking into account the public's views on undergrounding and sea route ideas.

NEWPORT TRANSPORTER BRIDGE

One of Britain's most unusual bridges is back in operation after a £1.2M refit at Newport across the River Usk. It was originally opened in 1906 built and designed by a French company, F. Arnodin. Two others survive in the UK at Middlesbrough and Warrington. It has four 242ft high lattice towers two either side of the River connected by an overhead railway conveying a gondola hanging below. It was originally required to transport workers across the River to a new steel works on the west bank. Surprisingly it is driven by the original engines and what's more they have an original spare as well!!

LARGE HADRON COLLIDER

The Collider has at last successfully created a "mini-Big Bang" by smashing together lead ions instead of protons. David Evans, one of the researchers, from the University of Birmingham said that the collisions obtained were able to generate the highest temperatures and densities ever produced. The process created in a safe environment generated dense sub-atomic fireballs with temperatures of over ten trillion degrees, a million times hotter than the centre of the Sun.

COPPER THEFTS

There has been a spate of copper thefts over the last twelve months some of which have been amazingly audacious. Gangs are disabling swaths of rail network by ripping out lines attached to track signals. The signals revert to safe working as red causing considerable disruption. In Kent telephone wires were removed near Hythe disconnecting subscribers in the village of Lympne, but the most dangerous must be a man sawing through a live 11,000volt line near Leeds, ending up in hospital but the Police said that he was lucky to be alive.

MEETING AT CHUDLEIGH

A large turnout of 40 members and friends arrived at our latest venue for meetings in Devon, the Highwaymen's Haunt Inn at Chudleigh for a talk "Nuclear Made Clear" on Thursday 4th November. Our venue is a thatched inn built originally about 1300 and is a charming place steeped in atmosphere with low beams, oak screens and open fireplaces. Those of us who had come from the north, having left Bristol in pouring rain, had the additional pleasure of arriving in lovely Devon sunshine. This venue was found for us by our Chairman, David Hole, and is one which we are likely to use again.

After drinks, including real ale, and the customary chats about old times, we assembled in the patio room for lunch. This was a cosy affair, due to all of us being grouped around two tables, but the food and service were top class.

After the meal we were entertained to a super talk on Nuclear Power by member Stuart Nuttall. Stuart worked in the Nuclear Industry initially for the CEBG and later as a Nuclear Consultant, and has an extensive knowledge of nuclear power. He reminded us that nuclear power was a subject which created strong emotions. People were for or against it and were very unlikely to change their views, often ignoring evidence which pointed the wrong way. Many people have a deep fear of nuclear radiation, not realising it has been all around us since time began.

Stuart outlined the early research into physics and nuclear science, mentioning the principal figures involved: the Curies, Albert Einstein, Cockcroft and Walton and Hann and Strassman who achieved nuclear fission in 1938. Stuart went on to describe the development of nuclear reactors. The first was built in Chicago in 1942; it was a pile of graphite blocks interleaved with uranium fuel. There was very little shielding and the controls were very crude. It ran for 28 minutes and was used to test the physics.

He discussed the parts needed to build a nuclear reactor and how this is achieved in the past, present and future designs. A brief summary followed of the reactor types in use:-

The Magnox Reactor which has the fuel encased in magnesium alloy, uses graphite as a moderator to slow down the neutrons and is cooled by carbon dioxide. The pressure vessel is either made of steel or pre-stressed concrete.

The Advanced Gas-cooled Reactor which has the fuel encased in stainless steel, uses graphite as a moderator and is cooled by carbon dioxide and has a pre-stressed concrete pressure vessel. This was an attempt to achieve high load factors and advanced steam conditions to suit modern turbines. It proved to be too complicated and was difficult to build and operate.

The Pressurised Water Reactor. Here the fuel is encased in alloy, the moderator is water and the coolant is water. The pressure vessel is steel. This is much simpler to construct, is widely used throughout the World and is the choice for the future.

Stuart mentioned other types of reactor (including Chernobyl) and discussed a couple of accidents which had occurred. The talk concluded with a look at the percentage of various fuels used in the generation of electricity and the need for new nuclear generation to reduce carbon dioxide and the dependence on gas.

A lively question and answer session followed after which Peter Lamb thanked the speaker for his talk and the meeting closed. It remains to thank David Hole for finding such an ideal venue, the staff of the Highwayman's Haunt for excellent food and service and Stuart Nuttall for a very entertaining and educational talk.

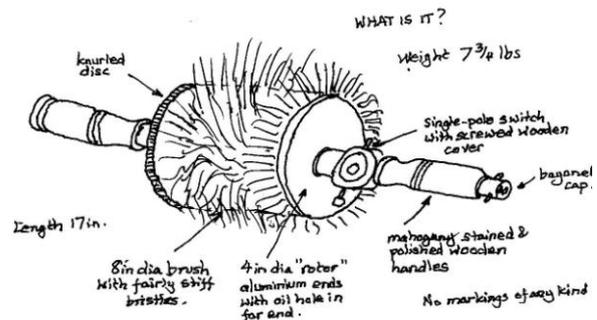
John Gale

HELP WANTED - WHAT IS IT?

Yesterday, during a torrential rainstorm, a bedraggled friend appeared at our door and handed me a parcel with the words "this is for the collection, I don't know what it is but its old!"

I don't know either, so I enclose a sketch and hope that someone can help. It is clearly a rotary brush with fairly stiff bristles. It would be difficult to use it for floors or shoes and it is clearly meant to be held by the wooden handles. Do you think it could be for horses? I cannot undo the knurled nut as yet. Perhaps I may give it a few volts and see what happens. I enclose a sketch. As they used to say, "thank you in anticipation"

Colin Hill Telephone 01484 666206



SW SOLAR POWER SCHEMES

Mr Eavis of Worthy Farm, the home of the Glastonbury Festival, has invested £50,000 in a new solar power station on the roofs of his cowsheds, reputed to be the largest solar station in the UK at 200kW. He hopes to recoup some of costs from the electricity provider at £5,000 a year. The installer of the solar modules, PV panels and inverters, is SolarSense, based near Bristol and Swansea. Another installer Scottish based Sunlec is seeking planning permission to install similar panels on five fields (45 acres) adjacent to Bristol Airport on the edge of Backwell. Is there enough sunshine in Somerset?

BRUNEL INSTITUTE

This incredible archive has opened in a new building adjacent to the SS Great Britain. It consists of the Brunel Archives of Bristol University, the SS Great Britain archives and two donated libraries from the late Sir Robert Wall and David McGregor. It is one of the Country's finest collection of maritime and Brunel material.

'30's LOAD BUILDING IN NORTH SOMERSET

This is the title of an article that appeared in the 10 January 1936 issue of the Electrical Review, of which bound copies covering a number of the pre-war years form a part of our archive collection at Cairns Road. The article is anonymous, probably written by a member of the editorial team following a visit to the North Somerset Electric Supply Company and the area served by it. The article describes the importance of having a good load factor, which even 75 years on still makes sense although the initiatives described for promoting electricity sales perhaps sit a little uneasily with to-day's philosophy of energy conservation. Anyway, what follows is intended to provide a flavour of electricity distribution in that era, which you may find of interest.

The load building policy of the company is described as first to endeavour to secure the whole of the industrial load by offering attractive terms for consumption during off-peak periods, particularly for water heating and pumping and then to go all out for domestic load under a two-part tariff with the electrification of the small dwelling. As a result the load factor was reported to be over 40%, which was considered to be quite a good figure for a mainly rural area of over 600 square miles. It also reflected favourably in the terms upon which the company purchased electricity since it did not generate itself and obviously did not want to operate at a loss! At that time most of the electricity was obtained from the Bristol undertaking on a step system while for the smaller southern section of the area a supply was bought from the Central Electricity Board. For 1935 the maximum demands of these two supplies were 5,800 kW and 1,610 kW respectively.

It was explained how pumping to reservoirs, which was the case with the majority of the pumping stations in the area, made it a simple matter to institute schemes for night pumping once the pumping authorities had been won over. But it was emphasised that it was the advantage of automatic control with electric driving which tipped the balance in the severe competition with the oil engine. The article makes reference to the installation of a new 400 hp motor driven pump at the Cheddar pumping station for pumping to either Blagdon Lake (8 miles distant) or the Barrow Gurney filter beds (16 miles away). The installation of this new pump, with its BTH motor and Ferguson Pailin liquid starter and oil circuit breaker was completed and installed during the 1934 drought within six weeks of placing the order!

Load factor improvement was by no means confined to pumping and another initiative was to operate a rebate system acceptable to the larger quarries to shut down at 4.0 pm on winter afternoons. Mention is made that there was a potential quarry in almost every hill in North Somerset and that the company was hoping for big things to mature from the Government's projected road schemes. It was stated that correct presentation of the power tariffs often resulted in a consumer keeping his maximum demand down. This was the case at the Callow Rock Limeworks where the two major energy consuming operations were alternated. The site substation for this works was connected to the Bristol – Wells 11kV ring

and housed a Crompton cubicle, high voltage switchboard, Hackbridge transformers and Hewittic glass bulb rectifiers for a d.c. supply for variable speed drives. As was the case with most of the substations the switchgear erection work was undertaken by Messrs Christy Bros Ltd, who were the contracting engineers to and founders of the North Somerset Electric Supply Company.

The company also claimed two lighthouses as consumers. That at Burnham-On-Sea with its 1,000 W lamp (high light) and 500 W lamp (low light) was claimed to be the first lighthouse in the country to be automatically electrically lighted.

Maybe this short article will stimulate some of you to pay a visit to Cairns Road to see for yourselves what nuggets of information can be found in our archives, a list of which is contained on our website. *Chris Buck*

WELCOME

Four new members have joined recently, they are Brian Denham, Alan Eves, David Gay and Austin Philp. We welcome them and hope that they may enjoy some historical research and our social scene.

PASSING OUT

We are very sad to report the death of Harry Cardy, a very loyal and keen member, who regularly travelled from Taunton to Bristol to be with us for the monthly Museum open day, when we would hear many tales of his work as Senior Jointing Instructor at the SWEB Training Centre. He certainly will be missed.

TRUTH HURTS

Drive carefully, it's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker!

FOR YOUR DIARIES – COMING EVENTS

Sat. 29th January 2011 ANNUAL LUNCHEON AT THE SWAN HOTEL, WELLS

Meet at Bishop's Palace at 10.45am for coffee and then a tour at 11.15am, then retire to the hotel from 1.00 pm for pre-lunch drinks with lunch commencing at 1.30pm. Speaker Cyril Routley "**Life on Board SS Gt. Britain**".

Tues. 1st Mar. MV BALMORAL VISIT – In the morning 1 ½ hr conducted tour of maintenance work on the ship by member Basil Stockbridge and lunch at the Dockside Café (near SS Gt. Britain).

Sat. 19th Mar. AGM AT TAUNTON + SPEAKER ROY ACKRILL "ELF and SAFETY"

at WPD Training Centre at 2.00pm. Lunch beforehand at 12.00noon at the Merry Monk Inn.

NEXT EDITION - This newsletter is produced every four months. Please send articles, photographs etc to :- Peter Lamb 35 Station Rd, Backwell, Bristol BS48 3NH or telephone on 01275 463160 or e-mail him on lambpandv@btinternet.com