

# BANCROFT MILL ENGINE MUSEUM

GILLIANS LANE, BARNOLDSWICK NR. COLNE, LANCS. BB18 5QR

18<sup>th</sup> May 2014

## CUMBRIA CLASSIC BIKE CLUB VISITS BANCROFT

For their very first official visit to Bancroft the members enjoyed beautiful weather for their ride down country followed by an interesting tour of the museum. Much time was spent with the Roberts engine whilst the Bradley engine attracted lots of questions particularly from those who had rebuilt their own classic bike engines. Dealing with machinery of this size was something new to the visitors.



A happy group from the West Cumbria area



Here's Roy F. (left, in green) relating the story of the Bradley engine from its manufacture in 1901 through its life at Cross Lane Mill, Bradley to its arrival for indefinite storage at Bancroft. It later was gifted to Bancroft by David Arnfield, its then owner. Much work has been necessary to get the engine to its present state, we shall revert to that topic in the next newsletter.



Another arrival that caused quite a stir was Tom Fryars with his 1914 Crossley 4.5 litre car that saw service with the Royal Flying Corps during World War 1 as a staff car. It's easy to imagine it being used for aircrew transport around an airfield, perhaps even in France, its huge slow-running engine sounds like distant thunder whilst parking.



Tom is quite a specialist in Crossley vehicles, they were made in Manchester, he also has a delivery van and an army lorry made in 1918. This car and the lorry have twin back wheels, we are not sure about the van. Like the Bancroft engine this car is still running well after more than 90 years.



Over just a few years your scribe has learned that Tom can arrive on almost anything from a veteran motor cycle to a road roller – yes, he's really turned up on both types of transport.

Here are our two stalwarts Rita (l) and Yvonne, normally behind the cafeteria counter, having some R and R on the leather seats of the Crossley.

## **ANSON ENGINE MUSEUM**

We were fortunate to be present at the official Start-up of the lovely Stott engine at the Anson Engine Museum, some considerable time ago. The engine is scheduled to run twice during the present year, next Sunday and Monday 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> of May and on 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> August.

It's always best to check before travelling to:-

Anson Road, Poynton, Cheshire, SK12 1TD

Tel: 01625 874 426

Email: [enquiry@enginemuseum.org](mailto:enquiry@enginemuseum.org)

---

[www.bancroftmill.org.uk](http://www.bancroftmill.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/BancroftMill](http://www.facebook.com/BancroftMill)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bancroft\\_Shed](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bancroft_Shed)

mail to:- [info@bancroftmill.org.uk](mailto:info@bancroftmill.org.uk)

more info from: **Ian, 01695 424166**

or from **Harry, 01943 602118**