

Shortlisted for 2 more awards

We have just heard from Marketing Cheshire that the museum has been shortlisted in two categories in the 2012 annual awards. These are held to recognise excellence and outstanding achievement by local companies and individuals.

The categories are: Team of the Year and Visitor Attraction of the Year. The museum is up against some stiff competition and everyone is thrilled to have reached the shortlist.

The winners for all 11 categories will be announced at a black tie dinner on Friday 23 November in Chester. The shortlist for all categories can be seen by clicking [here](#). For the categories we are competing for the short list follows.

Team of the Year 2012

- The Volunteers - Anson Engine Museum
- Sales & Revenue Team - ABode Chester
- The Hotel Team – Best Western Forest Hills Hotel
- Conference & Events Sales Team - Holiday Inn Runcorn
- The Golf Team - The Mere Golf Resort & Spa
- Network Warrington
- The Hotel Team - The Park Royal

Visitor Attraction of the Year 2012

- Anson Engine Museum
- Cheshire Farm Ice Cream
- Chester Zoo
- The Forum Studio Theatre
- Go Ape!
- Hack Green Secret Nuclear Bunker
- Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre

Hectic week

The museum is open to the public Friday - Sunday every weekend in the summer. This coming week we are also opening our doors on Tuesday evening for the Poynton 41 Club; Wednesday morning to host a Volunteers Forum for the Cheshire East CVS then on Thursday for the IDGTE and Newcomen Society when a paper will be presented by Trevor Owen "Diesel Power for UK Rail Traction". Then we are back to being open Friday - Sunday.

"Turn the Clocks Back" Closing Weekend 27/28 October

Over the winter months the museum is planning to build a new storage building. To allow the ground to be cleared for the footings many of our engines in the back area of the car park have been moved down into the car parking area itself. Because of this we are going to be very constrained with the amount of room we will have available for visitors over that weekend.

The Trustees have therefore taken the decision that for the closing weekend of the year, we will not have a mini rally as such and will not be accepting visiting engines. This will allow the maximum amount of available space to be used for visitor parking.

We hope enthusiasts will understand the need for our decision on this occasion and join us again next year for our opening and closing weekends.

We are still planning to have a large number of our own exhibits running over the closing weekend and hope you are able to pop along to see us.

Short on time?

Want to enjoy an hour? – enjoy every minute! Here are the top 10 things you must see

1. Video clips as you enter museum – history & context, also see our Awards
2. Steam engine section in Memorial Building
3. Rare, iconic engines from the National Collection
4. Largest running Crossley Atmospheric engine ever made
5. Mirrlees No 1 – 1st diesel engine built in UK
6. Gardner 4T5 always a crowd pleaser
7. Furnival engine running printing press and National engine running a typical workshop
8. Giant model of Poynton c1900 showing collieries around the area
9. Exhibition area – changes annually, currently Mirrlees memorabilia
10. Craft area monthly demonstrations of Bodging and Blacksmith work

We hope you enjoy your short visit and next time you might want to leave a little longer to enjoy everything we have to offer.

Dozens of videos on You Tube about the museum

It is great fun to look through the many videos about the museum on You Tube. Many thanks to everyone who has uploaded their videos to share with others.

Particular thanks to our stalwart volunteer Ian Summerfield (Tanisla2) for the videos showing the restoration work on some of our engines. If you haven't watched them yet look at the latest project on the 1938 MAN G8V U33 diesel engine. Click here for part 1, he is now up to video 4 on this project.

Another glowing endorsement for the museum

Our local tourist board has published a short piece about the excellent VAQAS rating we received recently. Click here for details.

Read one visitors blog about their visit over Bank Holiday.

We thought you might like to read this - great to hear viewpoint of the customer, click here.

There are more customer comments about the weekend available on TripAdvisor - click here Thanks to everyone who came along and made it such a success.

Free Jigsaw - build an engine at the Museum

This is your chance to build an engine - without getting your hands dirty! This link to our Gardner 4T5 jigsaw will test out your dexterity and spatial awareness. We hope you enjoy completing it. The record for assembly to date is 4 minutes 29 seconds for this 50 piece puzzle. Let us know if you manage to beat that time and we'll post your time and name.

Click here to have a go >>>>>>> (when prompted click Run)

For some tips on using your jigsaw, click here. Handy to print out and keep.

New range of unique cards on sale

Sketches and paintings by our resident blacksmith Rod Ellis will be featured during the Jubilee Weekend as part of the Poynton Craft Festival. To allow you to take home some of his sketches we have had them made into blank cards that you can purchase in our shop. Here are a few of the designs on offer.

Ready for some lepidoptery?

A local moth expert set up his unusual looking moth collector on Sunday night and had some interesting findings when he emptied it the next day. [Click here](#) to see the wide range of moths that had fluttered by.

Presenting the Les Cawley Memorial Trophy 25th August

Once again the Memorial Trophy will be presented at the Poynton Show. [Click here](#) to read more about the background to this annual recognition to Les Cawley, one of the founders of the museum.

Visitor from Japan just to see our engine

Sei Watanabe, the Chief Engineer of Honda R&D, Sensui, Asaka-shi, Saitama in Japan, has been instrumental in the development of the modern Atkinson cycle engine (EXlink) which went into mass production in Japan and Germany last year. The EXlink is a micro gas co-generation engine and has a very unique linkage system; it is based on the Atkinson-cycle. The museum has an engine in its collection (on loan from Technical Museum in Delft) which is the only working Atkinson-cycle in the world.

With this in mind, Sei Watanabe contacted the museum to explain he was on a short break of 5 days with his family in London. He knew we were not open to the public but he explained he was willing to catch a train from London to Cheshire just so he could visit the museum and see this unique engine build c1883 in operation. He explained he would leave his family to enjoy their day in London shopping and sight seeing and he would make the journey to and from Cheshire on his own. Was there any way we could accommodate his request?

We agreed to host him and Geoff showed him round the museum, running many engines, including of course the Atkinson.

Photos of Watanabe-san can be viewed by [clicking here](#). To read more about the EXlink engine follow [this link](#).

Memories of Poynton

Limited edition prints, signed by artist

Nostalgic look back at Poynton by local artist Rod Ellis. Who is also an active volunteer and resident blacksmith at the museum.

The original was sketched with love as a 70th birthday present for his sister Margaret who moved to Australia in 1972. The scenes are places she would remember from her childhood.

These numbered, signed prints are available (unframed) from the museum for £25 but a discounted rate of £20 to members of the museum "Friends" has been agreed.

Crossley SSN taken to 1000 Engine Rally 22 - 24 June

The Crossley Portable is down at Astle Park fully restored and will be running over the weekend, weather permitting. Here is a short history of the engine and some photographs. She looks fantastic in real life so do pop along and see the great restoration job our volunteers have done. [Click here.](#)

More photographs are also available in our Facebook album or you can see a video of it running on this [You Tube link.](#)

Bus tickets for 1000 Engine Rally Saturday 23rd June

The ticket includes return trip from Astle Park and entrance to the Anson Engine Museum. Coach ticket price Adults £8.00, Children under 16 £4.00
NB Safety regulations mean everyone must have their own seat.

The Museum is proud to announce their admission prices and bus tickets have not increased since 2010 , giving even better value for money to visitors. Their thanks to Andy McCarthy of McCarthy Coaches for his generous donation which helps keep the prices low.

The museum has many additions and more engines running than ever. Additionally a unique exhibition of engine related artwork is on display for you to enjoy. The Craft Centre will be in operation and the giant model of Poynton is bigger than ever. Saturday 23rd promises to be an evening you must not miss.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the museum and showing you our great new exhibits.

Important Notes

- Reserve your tickets by sending an email to enquiry@enginemuseum.org and give your full name, type and number of tickets you require.
- Reserved tickets to be collected from the Museum stand at Astle Park on Saturday 23rd by 14:00* or they will be offered for general sale. (*or earlier if announced at rally field on tannoy)
- Tickets must be shown to bus driver and at the museum entry desk for Museum tickets.
- Coaches depart Astle Park 18:30 or when full. Last coach estimated departure from the museum 21:00. No refund if you miss the bus.

Additional information:-

A caterer will be at the museum Saturday providing the now famous hot pot (ticket only, available from the museum stand at Astle Park – any surplus tickets will be sold at the museum on the night, but it is a limited amount, so first come, first served – get in early ! We have sold out last 2 years.) Reserve your food tickets along with your bus tickets and pick up on the day. Hot Pot (or veggie version) & Crusty Bread £5

A raffle will be held on the Saturday evening at the museum, with lots of great prizes

Museum Jubilee Beacon was lit at 10:26pm

We lit one of the 4,000 beacons in honour of the Jubilee Celebrations on the top of the dirt ruck - all that is left of the Anson Colliery.

See our gallery for photos of our beacon and fireworks, [click here](#)

Robey engines in steam for first time Sunday 20th May

Steam engine running day on Sunday 20th May, we hope to have the pair of Robey engines in steam for 1st time that day too.

The Robey engines are a pair and can be run singly or together. It is a 1926 experimental, high-speed, vertical compound engine with 6.5" and 9.5" bores and a 6" stroke. It was recovered from Chesterfield Technical College c1976 and has been restored to running condition by our volunteers.

Museum open 10 - 5, no additional charge to see steam engine section.