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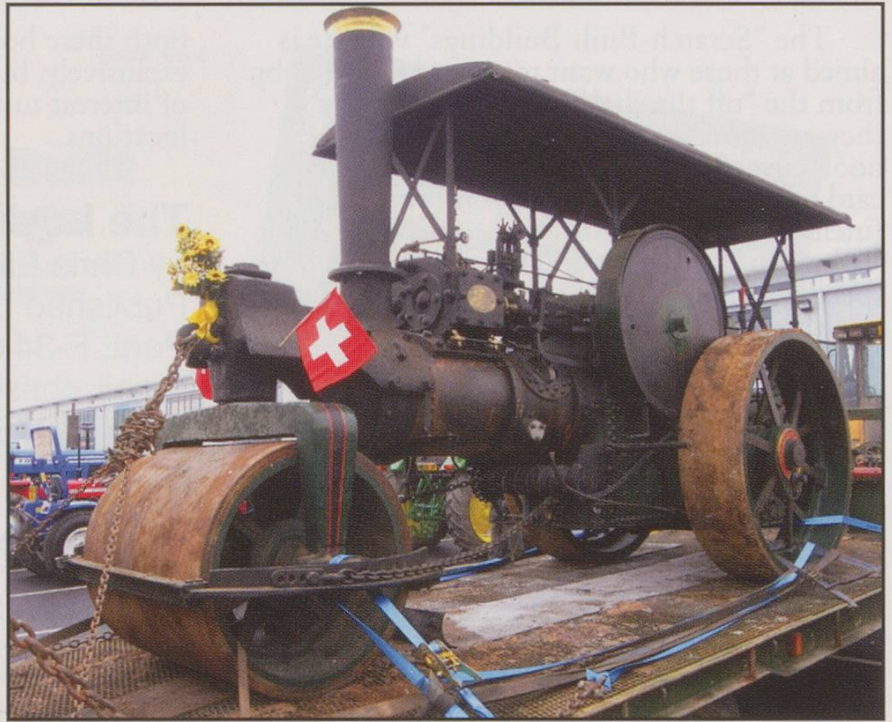
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A SWISS ROLL(ER)

Bremgarten

At the annual (and this year very cold) New Year's Day vintage transport meet in Somerset, a couple of Swiss flags were spotted fitted to the front of a steam roller on a transporter. Closer examination revealed that it was indeed proudly sporting its true colours. The Aveling & Porter steam roller No 5995 had been originally delivered new from Rochester in Kent to the Lausanne City Council in 1906. It had helped maintain the roads in the area until it was decommissioned and sold for scrap in 1964.

From the local scrap yard it passed through the hands of a few collectors in Switzerland, but it never steamed as the inspection doors had been removed in 1964.



In 2008 the engine returned to England after its 102 year stay in Switzerland. With new doors having been made by the time you read this it should have had its hydraulic test and if all goes according to plan it should be seen in operation at some shows in the West Country in the near future.

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