

# Museum of English Rural Life

## F T Dyer Collection

### D DYER

#### RECORDS OF F T DYER

The Collection covers the year's 1866-1998.

The physical extent of the collection is 83 Documents.

#### Introduction

Fred Dyer joined Ransomes Sims and Jefferies Ltd in September 1933 as an apprentice (the last one to be trained on steam engines). In 1943 he was appointed Plough Works Manager and during the second World War he was the Deputy Chief of Ransomes Orwell Works Fire Brigade. He was appointed General Works Manager for Ransomes Nacton Works in 1967, Chief Quality Controller and Engineering Manager in 1970 and Manager, Special Products, Design & Experimental Department in 1978. He retired in 1979.

#### **D DYER AD** ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS

#### **D DYER AD4** PREMISES RECORDS

**D DYER  
AD4/1** NOTES for a presentation relating to Ransomes Nacton Works  
and factory layout  
c1950

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### **D DYER AD8** GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

**D DYER  
AD8/1** FILE of correspondence relating to the setting up of a plant in South Africa to manufacture Ransomes products  
1958-1963

**D DYER  
AD8/2** Relating to visit to Leon Claeys PVBA, Zedelgem, Belgium and Gebr.Claas Maschinenfabrik GMBH, Harsewinkel, Westfalen, West Germany  
1962 (Jan-May)

**D DYER  
AD8/2-6** CORRESPONDENCE of F T Dyer

**D DYER  
AD8/3** Relating to visit to Le Progres Industriel, Lot, Belgium  
1964(Jun)

**D DYER  
AD8/4** Relating to visit to World Ploughing Championship and Kverneland Fabrikk, Norway  
1964-1965

**D DYER  
AD8/5** Relating to visit to Rasspe & Sohme, Solengen, West Germany  
1970(Dec)-1971(Jan)

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- D DYER  
AD8/6** Relating to visit to Highveld Steel & Vanadium Corporation,  
South Africa  
1974(Aug)
- D DYER  
AD8/7** CORRESPONDENCE from F T Dyer to Jonathan Brown at the  
Rural History Centre  
1989-1998  
Concerning various Ransomes related subjects including : A  
Ransomes framed poster/plaque from 1887, thrashing  
machines, the Magnatrac and Twinwaytrac ploughs, David  
Ransome and the Ransome family, Military engine 14623, G W  
Bone, the old plough works and the new one at Nacton, Steam  
wagon used by the Swan Brewery in Australia, blacksmiths  
hearths and Ransomes & Sims Portable steam engine No 454
- D DYER P** PUBLICATIONS AND ADVERTISING
- D DYER  
P2/B** INDIVIDUAL ADVERTISING AND SERVICING PUBLICATIONS  
(Others)
- D DYER  
P2/B1** LEAFLET, CIRCULAR LETTER & ORDER FORM Ransomes  
lawnmowers  
1994

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- D DYER  
P4/B** HOUSE JOURNALS AND TECHNICAL BULLETINS (Others)
- D DYER  
P4/B1** ARTICLES from The Black Swan, house journal of the Swan  
Brewery in Australia  
1964, 1970  
Relating to Ransomes steam engines  
Photocopy
- D DYER  
P4/B2** JOURNAL Steam Preservation Issue No 79 containing an article  
by Fred Dyer entitled 'Ransomes Sims and Jefferies PLC,  
Ipswich'  
1989  
And a brief article about and pictures of Ransomes portable  
steam engine No 933 which was discovered in Matakita State  
Forest, New Zealand
- D DYER  
P4/B3** ARTICLE from Management To-day about Ransomes entitled  
'Out of the Rough'  
1995(Jun)  
Photocopy
- D DYER  
P4/B4** ARTICLE from the Quarterly Journal of Forestry on Ransomes  
portable steam engine No 15688 found in Chile  
c1997  
Photocopy
- D DYER  
P4/B5** NEWSLETTER East Anglian Steam Times No 16  
1998(Mar)

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**D DYER  
P4/B6** ARTICLE from the journal Steam News entitled 'Ransomes  
Sims & Jefferies Celebration'  
1998(Spring)  
Photocopy

**D DYER PH** PHOTOGRAPHS

**D DYER PH3** PRINTS

**D DYER  
PH3/1** POSTCARD with photograph of Ransomes pattern makers  
1914(Jul)  
Including William Bugg, Samuel Sawyer and J Pemberton

**D DYER  
PH3/2** PHOTOGRAPHS of Ransomes Pattern Shop and personnel  
1935  
Including F T Dyer who was then an apprentice

4 items

**D DYER  
PH3/3** PHOTOGRAPH Ransomes Plough Works management  
1936

**D DYER  
PH3/4** PHOTOGRAPHS of Ransomes No 1 Plough Works  
1936

3 items

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**D DYER  
PH3/5**

PHOTOGRAPH of J Worby, truck driver, P department  
1936

**D DYER  
PH3/6**

PHOTOGRAPH of Ransomes No2 Plough Works, Ipswich  
1937

**D DYER  
PH3/7**

PHOTOGRAPH of Ransomes staff looking at an Equitine  
cultivator in a field  
1938

**D DYER  
PH3/8**

PHOTOGRAPHS of Ransomes staff looking at a MG2 tractor,  
No 3 Motrac, Equitine and Dauntless cultivators and RSLD  
plough  
c1945

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/9**

PHOTOGRAPHS Orwell Works Sports Day  
1948

5 items

**D DYER  
PH3/10**

PHOTOGRAPHS of a Fowler 6ft plough adapted to a disc  
plough by T T Boughton & Sons, Amersham  
c1950

6 items

**D DYER  
PH3/11**

PHOTOGRAPHS of staff of T T Boughton & Sons and  
Ransomes  
c1950

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In front of a Fowler BB1 engine during the testing of a Fowler 6ft plough adapted to a disc plough

4 items

**D DYER  
PH3/12**

PHOTOGRAPH of Ransomes - Wegmann trolley bus James Hall Museum, Johannesburg, South Africa  
c1965

**D DYER  
PH3/13**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes steam engine No 34844, Zaire  
1981

**D DYER  
PH3/14**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes/Ruston portable steam engine No 39158, Worcester Museum, Cape Province, South Africa  
1983

**D DYER  
PH3/15**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes portable steam engine No 3316, Goondiwindi, Queensland, Australia  
1984

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/16**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) Ransomes portable steam engine No 22025, Pretoria, South Africa  
1984(Apr)

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**D DYER  
PH3/17**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of McLaren traction engine No 1471  
with superheater, Pretoria, South Africa  
1984(Apr)

**D DYER  
PH3/18**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes portable steam engine  
No 27064, Zimbabwe (Rhodesia)  
1984 (7 Jun)

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/19**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of McLaren traction engine No 1471  
with superheater, Pretoria, South Africa  
1984(Oct)

**D DYER  
PH3/20**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Burrell ploughing engine No 777,  
the last known one in existence, Stowmarket, Suffolk  
1986

3 items

**D DYER  
PH3/21**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes internal combustion  
engine discover on a farm at Timaru, New Zealand  
1986 (7 Mar)

5 items

**D DYER  
PH3/22**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes & Sims portable steam  
engine No 933, Matakita State Forest, New Zealand  
1988

3 items



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**D DYER  
PH3/23** POSTCARD with colour photograph of a Ransomes crawler tractor which has been converted to steam and up for auction at Christie's  
1989

**D DYER  
PH3/24** PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes & Sims portable steam engine No 454, Brayshaw Park Museum, New Zealand  
1989

7 items

**D DYER  
PH3/25** PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes stationary steam engine No 11484, Port Elizabeth, South Africa  
1989

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/26** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes & Sims portable steam engine No 933, Matakītaki State Forest, New Zealand  
1989(May)

**D DYER  
PH3/27** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes/Ruston portable steam engine No 43030, Badingham [Suffolk?]  
1990(Apr)

**D DYER  
PH3/28** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes retired Directors and managers  
1990 (3 Apr)  
Back Row (Left to Right)  
A Wineer, A Plumb, G Bone, P Dorking, A Stephenson  
J Wakeman, G Catchpole, F Garnham, W Akester, H Hicks, F Dyer  
Front Row (Left to Right)  
J Jarvis, B Mee, L Bryant, E Mann, D Hursey, J Rivers

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A Barber, E Gaerod

**D DYER  
PH3/29**      PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes hearths at Monewdon  
Village smithy  
1990(Sep)

3 items

**D DYER  
PH3/30**      PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Howard "Farmers Engine" and  
tackle in Leicestershire  
1991

**D DYER  
PH3/31**      PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes MG6 tractor No 10867,  
Port Elizabeth, South Africa  
1991

**D DYER  
PH3/32**      PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes 4 hp portable steam  
engine No 18060, Power House Museum, Sydney  
1991(Oct)

**D DYER  
PH3/33**      PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes Head & Jefferies  
vertical steam engine No 1736 at Lake Goldsmith, Australia  
1991(Nov)

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/34**      PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of plaque advertising Ransomes  
ploughs, 'Hayloft Cafe', Saxmundham, Suffolk  
1992

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**D DYER  
PH3/35**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes traction engine No 18047 converted to rail, Wilga, Australia  
1992

**D DYER  
PH3/36**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes boardroom chair from the early part of the 20th century  
1992(Jul)

**D DYER  
PH3/37**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes road traction engine number 18047 nicknamed 'Snorting Liz' Manjimup Museum, Western Australia  
1992 (2 Sep)

4 items

**D DYER  
PH3/38**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Michael James Ransome, the son of David Packard Ransome, Canterbury, New Zealand  
1993(Feb)

**D DYER  
PH3/39**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of a Ransomes No 16 'Dauntless' cultivator adopted to hydraulic lift by Michael Ransome, Canterbury, New Zealand  
1993(Feb)

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/40**

PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Ransomes portable steam engine No 27566 outside Mmabatho (Mafeking) Museum, South Africa  
1993(Aug)

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4 items

**D DYER  
PH3/41**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes traction engine at Stowmarket Museum  
c1993

**D DYER  
PH3/42**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes threshing machine No 36183 at Bathurst Agricultural Museum  
1994

**D DYER  
PH3/43**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes portable steam engine No 41026 at Bathurst Agricultural Museum  
1994

**D DYER  
PH3/44**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Fowler single cylinder ploughing engines No's 2861 & 3195  
1995

**D DYER  
PH3/45**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes 'Wizard' 3½ hp oil engine No 35229  
1995

**D DYER  
PH3/46**

PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes portable steam engine No 14007 found at 'Millwood', Knysna, Cape Province, South Africa  
1995

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- D DYER  
PH3/47** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of a lunch party of former Ransomes managers and directors, The Three Tuns, Wicham Market 1995(Feb)
- D DYER  
PH3/48** PHOTOGRAPHS(Colour) Ransomes Mk I 24 inch motor mower c1996
- 2 items
- D DYER  
PH3/49** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of F T Dyer and H R Hicks in front of a Ransomes steam engine named the `Mendip Lady' 1997 (5 May)
- D DYER  
PH3/50** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes traction engine 26995 `Mendip Lady', Thetford Forest 1997 (25 Jul)
- D DYER  
PH3/51** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of a framed Ransomes poster dated 1887 advertising steam engines and threshing machinery 1998
- D DYER  
PH3/52** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes Colonial Tractor No 22122, Netherlands 1998

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**D DYER  
PH3/53** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of Ransomes Colonial Tractor No  
31216, Netherlands  
1998

**D DYER  
PH3/54** PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of Marshall, Sons & Co traction  
engine No. 76175, King Williams Town Museum, South Africa  
1998 (18 May)

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/55** PHOTOGRAPHS (Colour) of a printing press made by  
Ransomes & May, private museum Framsdon Mill, Suffolk  
1998(Aug)

2 items

**D DYER  
PH3/56** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of time whistles salvaged from  
Ransomes Orwell Works  
1998(Aug)

**D DYER  
PH3/57** PHOTOGRAPH (Colour) of a framed Ransomes poster dated  
1887 advertising steam engines and threshing machinery  
1998(Aug)

**D DYER PH5** SLIDES AND TRANSPARENCIES

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**D DYER  
PH5/1** SLIDES (Colour) Ransomes blacksmith forge, Helmingham,  
Suffolk  
1980

2 items

**D DYER SP** SOCIAL AND PERSONAL RECORDS

**D DYER SP1** GENERAL REFERENCE RECORDS

**D DYER  
SP1/1** NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS relating to Ransomes  
1989-1995

**D DYER SP2** RECORDS OF EVENTS, SOCIETIES AND ORGANISATIONS

**D DYER  
SP2/1** NOTES for a talk given by F T Dyer to the Institute of  
Mechanical Engineers in Norwich entitled History of  
Development of Farm Machinery  
1993 (22 Apr)

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### **D DYER SP3** RECORDS RELATING TO PRODUCTS

**D DYER  
SP3/1** LETTER published in Journal Suffolk Fair about a Ransomes  
'Experimental Military Hauling Engine' from 1903.  
1960's  
A picture of the traction engine accompanies the letter

**D DYER  
SP3/2** CORRESPONDENCE, NOTES and other material relating to  
Ransomes & Sims portable steam engine No 933  
1989  
Found in Matakītaki State Forest, New Zealand and the  
Matakītaki Hydraulic Sluicing and Water Supply Company Ltd  
who used the engine for powering a saw mill

### **D DYER SP4** PERSONAL RECORDS

**D DYER  
SP4/1** ARTICLE from The Review about the new Mayor of Thornaby-  
on-Tees, C Arthur Head  
1894  
Who worked for Ransomes and was the brother of John Head  
who was a partner in Ransomes, Head & Jefferies [Photocopy]

**D DYER  
SP4/2** FAMILY TREE tracing the Ransomes family  
1905-1979



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**D DYER  
SP4/3**

DIARIES of F T Dyer  
1958-1979

**D DYER  
SP4/4**

NOTES & ARTICLE relating to the connection between  
Ransomes and Sir George Biddell Airy, Astronomer Royal,  
1835-1881  
1998

**D DYER  
SP4/5**

OBITUARY from the Western Morning News of Hawkins Madge,  
a farmer and businessman who worked for Ransomes  
1998 (26 May)  
Photocopy

**D DYER SP5 OTHER RECORDS**

**D DYER  
SP5/1**

CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS relating to a purchasing trip  
to Europe by Miguel Iglesias an engineer from the Mexican  
Ministry of Development  
1866  
Photocopy