

Velocipede

The 11th National
Velocipede Rally
Sunday 10th July 2011
Froghall Station
Churnet Valley
Railway
Staffs ST10 2HA

Historic Disinformation

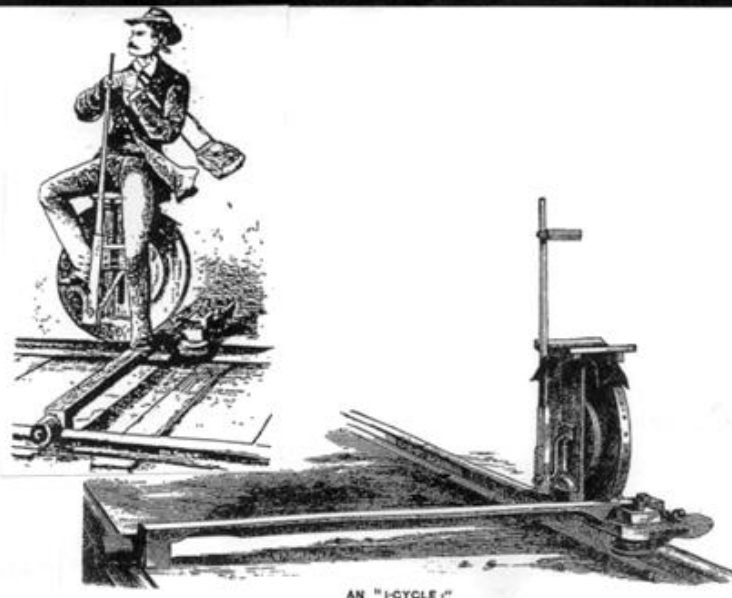
I have come to the conclusion, after many hours of hard work and many experimental changes, that the 1879 published drawings of Mr. Kaempfer's "I-Cycle" are just not correct. I'm sure Mr Kaempfer did build a machine, but this was not it.

The Sunbury and Lewistown Railway which passed near McClure school seized the machine after its unauthorized and dangerous use on their tracks, and then publicised its capture, with woodcut illustrations.

If the railway was trying to discourage copying of the machine the last thing they would do is give enough information to people like me to build a working copy.

Well this copy does not work and based on these drawings it never will, it would stand more chance with a pair of pedals.

If anyone wants to prove me wrong (and I may be) you are very welcome to borrow the machine and have a go at the bits but I think the light has dawned—they lied!

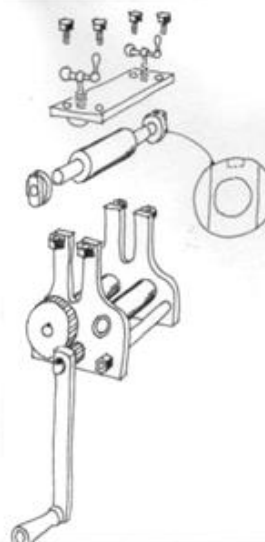
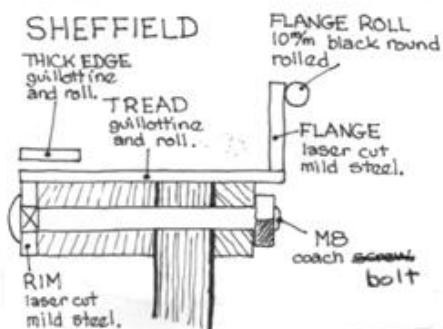


NEW VELOCIPEDE WHEELS

We are going to attempt making some Velocipede wheels from scratch and are building a set of chunky bench rolls (based on Wheelright's rim rolls) to roll rims and thick edges for new wheels.

The thick edges are to get as close to the original profile as possible. We will attempt wooden spokes and felloes (the curved blocks around the rim) for the **Sheffield** wheels, using laser cut profile guides for a router.

The **BUDA** wheels will have a laser cut steel centre and a laser cut "spider" overlay to simulate the original pressing. Photos next year.



Scandinavian Bike

First I must thank David Heywood who measured up the wheels on his bike "Fred" and sent us the dimensions we used to prepare the .dwg file we used for our machine and can send you.

From this file a laser cutting firm could cut you a set of flat parts for the 3 wheels—ours cost £151.15 (2010 price) including VAT. If you are quoted a silly price, shop around or check the shipping costs & use the one we do.

Steel Service Centre Limited
Hanger 5, New Road, Hixon, Stafford, ST18 0PJ
Telephone 01889 270241 www.sslaser.co.uk

BITS

You will also need 30mm axles (to suit the gap in your frame) welded to the square hole boss, plus 10mm studding, nuts & tube sleeves and 10mm coach bolts to assemble the wheel. Also 4 ball bearings in carriers, 2 with bent ends to

tension the chain. A sacrificial bicycle and a few strips of 2mm steel sheet plus access to welding and brazing. Try your local evening classes, local Model Engineers will aim you in the right direction, all the bits are their size.

29 SO FAR

We have, with your help, tracked down:

- 20 Velocipedes
- 5 Trackbikes
- 3 Row Boats
- 1 Poling Car

VELOCIPEDES

John Wilkinson ROWDEN MILL STATION
 Steve Kay HAMPTON LOADE STATION
 Neil Brooks GOTHERINGTON STATION
 Bob Palmer BROMYARD & LINTON LT. RLY.
 John Jolly MANGAPPS RAILWAY MUSEUM
 Graham Hughes CHURNET VALLEY RLY.
 John Millar Curator TENTERDEN TOWN Stn
 Tony Lyster Curator QUANTON ROAD
 Roger Orchard DIDCOT RLY. CENTRE
 SWINDON & CRICKLADE RAILWAY
 3 NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM
 HEREFORDSHIRE
 2 Fred Pragnell BLUEBELL RAILWAY
 SOUTH DEVON RAILWAY
 KIDDERMINSTER RAILWAY MUSEUM
 2 Kevin Thomas CHURNET VALLEY RLY.

TRACKBIKES

NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM
 Roger Fuller STONE STAFFS.
 Kevin Gould N. YORK MOORS RLY.
 David Heywood EDEN VALLEY RAILWAY
 CHURNET VALLEY RAILWAY

IRISH TRACKBIKES

5'3" CULTRA
 TWO 3' CAVAN & LEITRIM RAILWAY
 I have not invited these but I suppose I could include a hacksaw in the invitation.

ROWBOATS

CHURNET VALLEY RAILWAY
 John Millar Curator TENTERDEN TOWN Stn.
 BODMIN & WENFORD RAILWAY

POLING CARS

John Jolly MANGAPPS RAILWAY MUSEUM

Are there any more ?

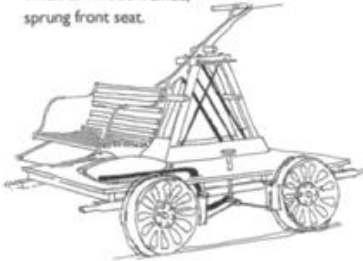
This list does not include any Pump Trolleys they CAN go very fast and may run over Velocipedes unless they have a specific brakesman whose job is just to control speed.

Passenger carrying Pump Trolleys

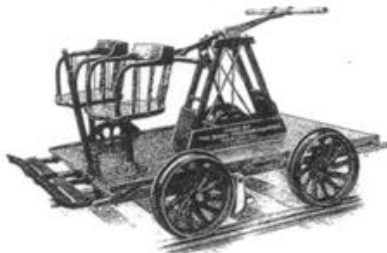
These are much slower than the standard machines.

The Pyramid with the walking beam is to one end of the platform and a bench seat was fitted on the more spacious end. Wickham of Ware made lots.

Wickham wood framed, sprung front seat.

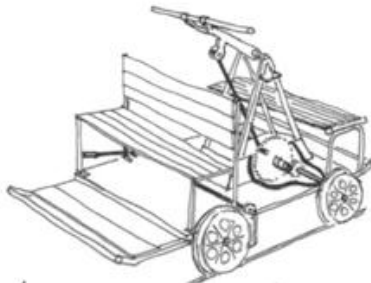


BUDA of Harvey Illinois made a similar model 5 and a half.



Some machines had only half the walking beam and a working crew of only two, Wickham made some very basic ones for Nigeria.

Wickham Ultra Lightweight Inspection Trolley from steel tube with an aluminium deck.



Buda also made two half beam models No5 and 5A

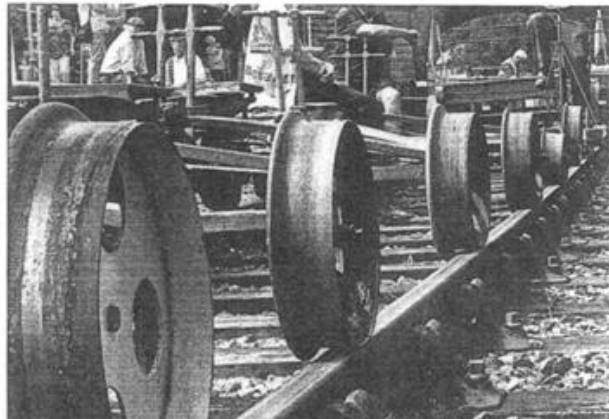


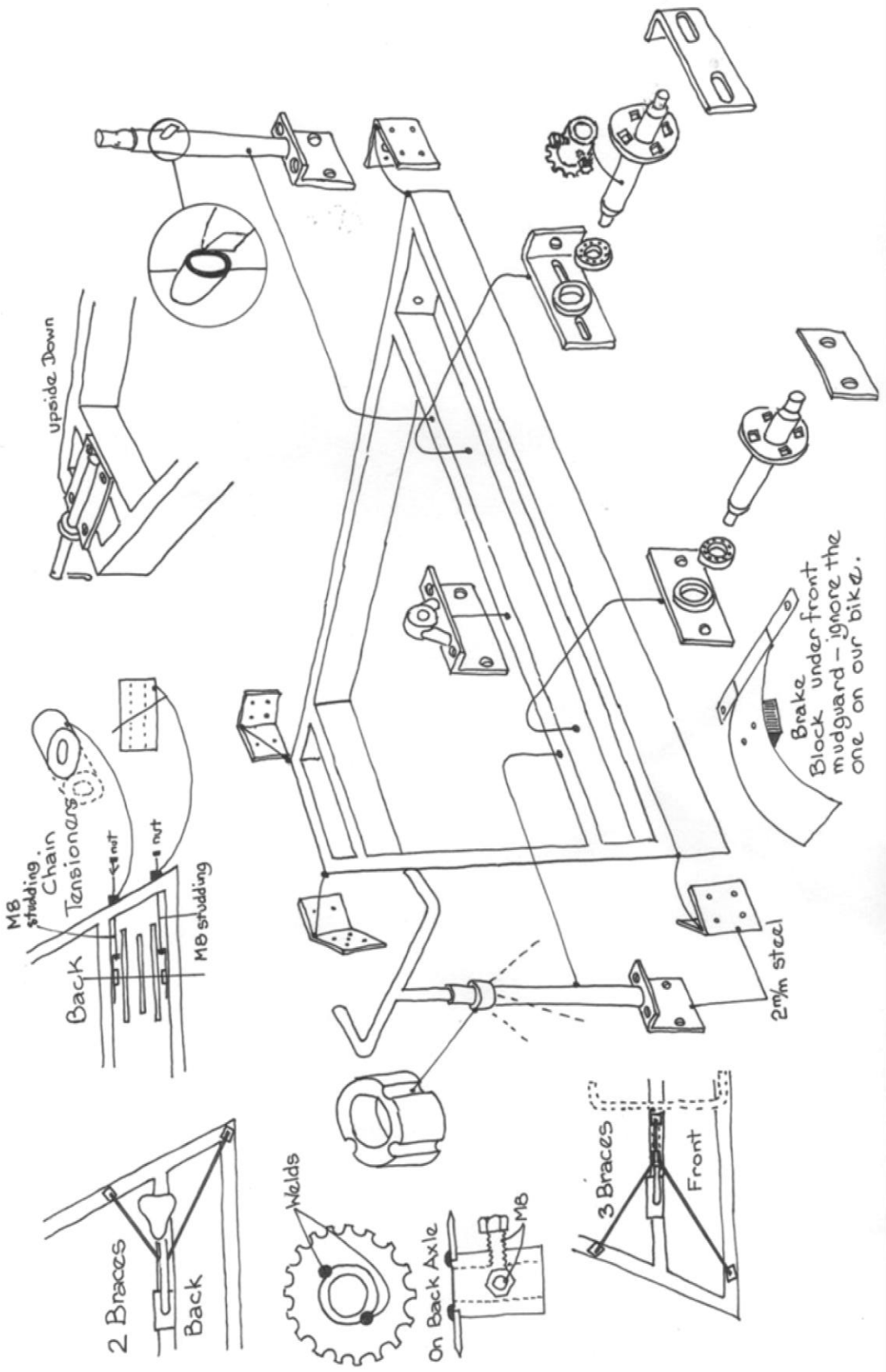
They also exist with bench seats for passengers down the two long sides over the wheels, the photo below of one at the Utrecht Museum has short handles for a pumping crew of two.

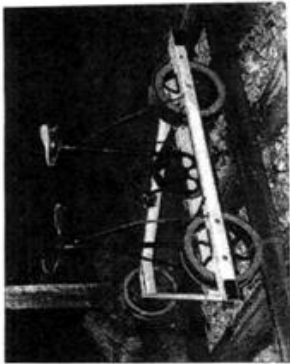


The best photo taken at the 2010 Rally

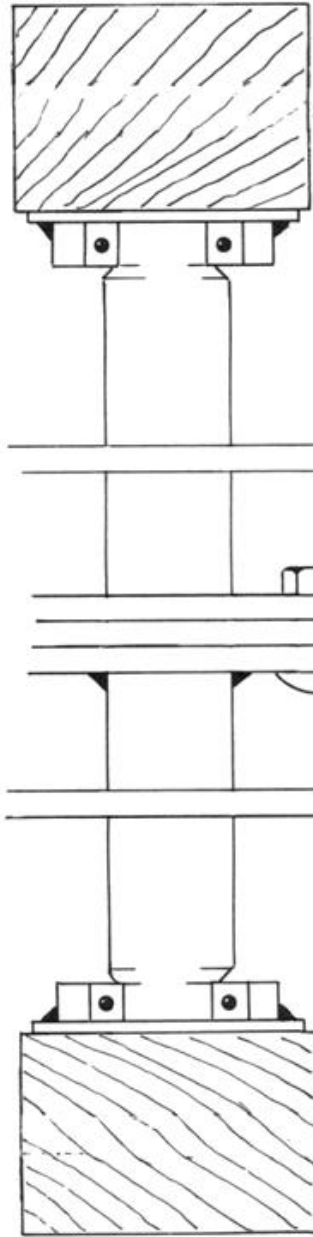
by Rebekah Fuller



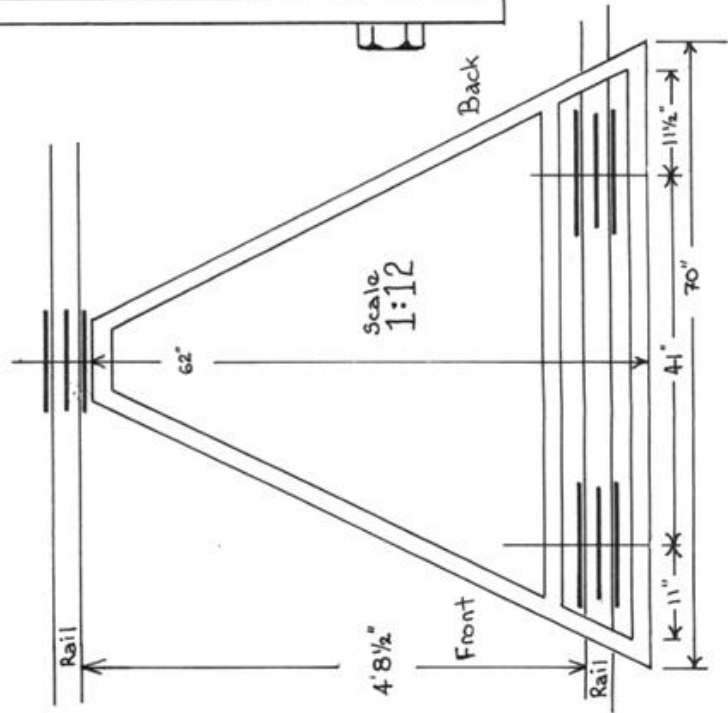
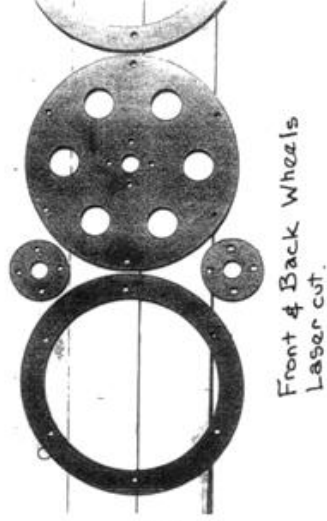
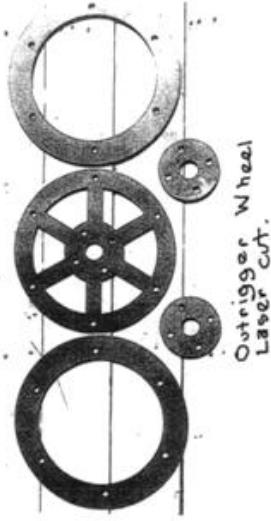




The Original Machine



Front Wheel
 Reduced from A3 (Full Size)



Back

Scale 1:12

62°

4' 8 1/2"

Front

70"

11 1/2"

Rail

If you decide to build a track bike contact us and we can send you a .dwg file for laser cutting the wheels.

