

Hailwood & Ackroyd Cap Lamp

by Mick Corbridge



The existence of a carbide cap lamp manufactured by 'Hailwood & Ackroyd' of Morley - Leeds, is treated with some scepticism by many collectors as no examples appear to be held in collections. Some advertisement literature is known showing examples of such lamps, (see Eureka Issue No.26 page 32), but up to now I did not know of any collector who had even seen one.

Recently, a dealer friend of mine contacted me & mentioned that he had acquired a cap lamp having the 'Hailwood & Ackroyd' logo stamped on the side & was offering it for sale. When we next met I was able to purchase the lamp which although was of great interest to me due to it's rarity, it was also disappointing to find that it's base section was not the original 'H & A', but was one of the early 'Premier' design. Even in the early days of carbide cap lamps in use in mines, miners regularly carried spare carbide in spare bases for

use on long shifts & swapped bases as required; the threads of the early 'Premier' base fit the lamp top threads perfectly.

The rest of the lamp appears to be original & complete. The water tank is straight & plain with a domed top having deeply impressed notches for 2/3rds of the way around. The water door is a flip type & is very large for the size of the lamp, so large that it actually sticks out over the edge of the lamp. It is fitted with a wire hook & brace, & a ball ended water tap lever. The lamp is of all brass finish including the reflector which carries quite a long style of flint mechanism of the usual design;

the reflector spacer is moulded into the shape of the water tank. The jet is slightly unusual and is of a screw in design. The logo is incuse into the right hand side of the water tank, and is stamped in a oval shape showing - 'Hailwood & Ackroyd' at the top, & 'Leeds' at the bottom: a smaller centre oval contains the word 'Morley' which is a suburb of Leeds & is where the 'H. & A.' factory was situated. The lamp is in generally good condition having only one small dint above the logo oval. Inside the water feed jet stem is long & thin & the gas filter which contains 6 small holes, is held in position by a brass nut. The age of the lamp is currently unknown?

