

The National Valve Museum

Updates January 2018

The Microsoft Windows 10 'fall update' caused the museum computer to lose the ability to print to my Samsung ML-2580 printer. I rolled back the update and reloaded – same problem. I then spent very many hours looking at the internet at ways to fix this problem – none worked. My laptop, also Win 10, printed without problems after the upgrade. When I returned to the problem after Christmas I noticed that some operating system functions were becoming unstable. A complete reset seemed to be the answer. However, using the USB key restore failed at the last moment every time. The first master SSD developed the Blue Screen of Death (BSoD) after working for a while. This left just one master SSD working albeit with errors and finally died with BSoD. My HP SFF Elite 8200 was six years old and originally came with Win 7 Pro, the upgrade to Win 10 came under the Microsoft free upgrade offer – ie no system discs or obvious product key. Being left with no option, I bought a new HP SFF Elite 800. Then came the fun of finding the activation codes and original software discs and downloads for all my software. Crimson editor is rejected by Win 10 User Account Control so a new editor had to be found.

On Friday I had an hour long on-line chat to a Microsoft tech support team member. Very polite but did not grasp the kernel of the problem I had – no original Win 10 or product code to re-install. A final remark was that the Fall Update could be incompatible with some older machines. Nice of them to tell us after the machine became inoperable.

The 8200 now has a fully working Win 7 Pro system as the original DVD's worked perfectly and the product key was printed on the side of the machine.

The new Elite-desk SFF computer has a built-in 250 Gb SSD with the new M2 interface and I have added two 250 Gb SSD's, one for the museum master data and the second for the website backups. The main backups remain as RAR files of the drives to two NAS drives – one in house and one off-site.

And that is why this month's update is starting on Saturday January 13th.

Added 63 exhibits to take the total from 5148 to 5211.

Added 6 boxes.

- box 312 – Ken-Rad 3S4 (new maker added)
- box 313 – Siemens C3a
- box 314 – Tung-Sol 3DT6 (new maker added)
- box 315 – Marconi HI2 industrial
- box 316 – Hewlett Packard 2D21 (new maker added)
- box 317 – Western Electric 6AK5 – US Army