

WARWICKSHIRE CENTRE NEWSLETTER

Number 163: June – July 2013

Centre News

You will be aware that our regular venue, The Bear Inn at Berkswell, has plans for a refurbishment at some point during the year, as they are unable to give us a date for this disruption it is best for us to assume that The Bear is open and that we can hold our noggins there. I have checked today (6th Aug) and they confirm that there will be no work done by 16th August so our AGM and noggin will not be affected. If for September or October noggins we find it closed it will be easy to re-locate to our first reserve noggin venue, Ye Old Saracen's Head in nearby Balsall Common. I will however try to call in a fortnight before each noggin just to see if there is an update.

We have had a good Spring and Summer so far with a range of centre events, early in June we met at The Mother Huff Cap in Great Alne for a Sunday lunch. Sue Purden found us this venue, and in liaising with the staff was able to sort out a bespoke menu. This was a well attended event with a line up of 8 Morgans in the car park. It was a nice sunny day to enjoy some time both before and after the meal and to relax in the garden area.

Later in June Brian Teece organised a day at Wellesbourne Wings & Wheels Classic Car event in fact this was our sixth annual visit. This year included in the Morgan line up was Martin Kiplin's new three wheeler together with 15 four wheel Morgans, somewhat unusually these were joined by a Daimler 250 Saloon. The Vulcan XM655 performed a high and low speed taxi run during the day. This year a Vulcan B2 identified as XH558 was flying, and a Dakota from the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight. Better weather this year compared to last as it was a fine sunny day.

The Banbury Steam Rally attracted a group of Oxmog and Warwickshire members on another sunny day at the end of June. The steam fair was as you would expect full of steam exhibits including scale model sit on and drive engines, static units and of course many full size traction engines. There was a good display of classic cars and motor cycles. Wild life was there too with falconry and ferret demonstrations. Breaking from the steam theme there was a Red Arrows formation fly past.

Early in July we had the first of the scenic runs, this one organised by Chris and Sue Windsor which took us from Hopwood services on the M40 through country roads to Halfpenny Green vineyard. We made good progress on this run with just four Morgans taking part, but all enjoyed this genuinely scenic drive in the Staffordshire countryside. We arrived in time for light lunches in the garden, and then afterwards we had a really excellent guided tour of the vineyard by the owner. This was a gloriously sunny day; the grapes were just starting to fill up following a particularly wet couple of weeks. We then were shown the fermentation and bottling unit, followed by a video show tracing a year in the life of the vineyard. We became experts on grape varieties and the accompanying wine tasting made us experts on the wines made there too. As the end of the afternoon approached we were served a cream tea, finally ending with a little more time soaking up the sun outside in the garden before setting off home.

At the end of July we had another scenic run this time starting at Kenilworth castle skirting round the south of Warwick passing through the small villages, some of the lanes were familiar to us all and some surprisingly unknown. Twelve Morgans set off in two groups for the route of about 45 miles, after about two hours we arrived at Packwood House National Trust property in time for a picnic lunch. One more Morgan joined the group to make up the fine display in the secluded courtyard arranged for us by Barry Wingfield, a Morgan owner and volunteer at Packwood house. This was a superb photo opportunity, enhanced with a ground keeper's platform lift for some aerial shots of our cars, the house and gardens.

Warwickshire Centre AGM - Friday 16th August

I would like to start the AGM promptly at 8.00pm. The format will be a discussion on centre activities, the election of centre committee members, secretary and treasurer, the adoption of the accounts, and finishing up with suggestions from the members present. I have included a form on page 4 of this newsletter which invites proposals for the centre's committee members, centre secretary and any general proposal for the centre to consider and vote on. This allows those centre members who are unable to be present at the AGM, for whatever reason, to actually have an input if they wish. This is particularly relevant this year as the MOG event in Canterbury kicks off on the same day as our AGM.

The form allows for any proposed items for the agenda that require a vote to be forwarded to the centre secretary no less than 48 hours before the meeting so that voting papers can be prepared. Queries regarding eligibility and clarification on voting status please contact the centre secretary no less than 48 hours before the meeting.

The aim would be to finish the business meeting at 9.00pm and proceed with the regular noggins; if the weather is favourable we can conduct the meeting outside.

MSCC Auto Solo – 31st August and 1st September

You will see in Miscellany plenty of information relating to the event at Gaydon Heritage Motor Centre. This MSCC event is being sponsored by Heritage Insurance, go to page 17 August's Miscellany.

Peter Forrest will again be looking for volunteers in supporting roles of time-keeping or marshalling.

If you are able to help for an hour or so please give Peter Forrest a call on ☎ 01865 735770.

Coventry Festival of motoring – Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th August

The details for this year's event can be found on the web site <http://www.festival-of-motoring.co.uk>. There have been no takers to set this up as a Centre activity. Last year centre members made their own arrangements and had a thoroughly good time. The general feeling was that Sunday was the better of the two days.

Classic Vehicle Day at the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway - Sunday 15th September

This date is rapidly approaching, our centre booking arrangements are once more in the capable hands of Ken Blanch. There is an attached form on page 5 of this newsletter. Ken has reserved 10 car spaces. To reserve your space please fill in the form and send by no later than the end of August to: Ken Blanch, Greystoke, Marsh Lane, Hampton in Arden, Solihull B92 0AJ. If you need to call Ken on ☎ 01675 442762

The repairs to the landslip that closed part of the line last year have been carried out, there have been steam days running this summer. 'Foremarke Hall' should be in service for scheduled trips between Cheltenham and Toddington.

For any would be steam loco buffs I mentioned in the last newsletter some Foremarke Hall facts, so I will précis those this time:

No. 7903 Foremarke Hall was one of the 79XX series, this Modified Hall class and was built at Swindon in 1949. These were known as 'Greyhounds' by footplate crew as they seemed to be somewhat fleet of foot than their earlier classmates. 7903 Foremarke Hall distinguished itself in 1951 on the Plymouth to Paddington boat-train being the first locomotive to cover the distance in less than 4 hours.

Centre Regalia

Warwickshire Centre car badges: a new colour scheme for the next series is in the pipeline.

Paul is also looking at the possibility of getting some windscreen stick on centre badges, and enamelled lapel badges.

There are a few Polo shirts still in stock, please call Paul if you want to know the colours that are available. Contact Paul on ☎ 01564 779735 or e-mail: Wheatleypo@AOL.com

Garage News

When it comes to fixing a date for your MOT don't do it too early like I did. If you book it more than a month before the due date you lose the extra days, simply getting 365 days in all, assuming the Mog gets a pass of course.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 16th August: Centre AGM at 8.00pm followed by Centre Noggin at The Bear Inn, Spencers Lane, Berkswell

16th to 19th August: MOG13 Canterbury

24th and 25th August: August Bank Holiday Coventry Festival of motoring

31st August and 1st September - MSCC Auto Solo

Sunday 15th September: Classic Vehicle Day at the Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway

Friday 20th September and Friday 18th October: Centre Noggin (8.30 pm onwards) at The Bear Inn, Spencers Lane, Berkswell

OTHER EVENTS

To supplement our own centre events the following event(s) are given as they may be of interest to members as an addition or alternative to formal MSCC events, as well as those included in Miscellany's "What's On" page.

Note: For these events members wishing to attend are responsible for their own applications where applicable and any travel arrangements.

AUGUST

- Saturday 10 August 2013: Bentley Drivers, Silverstone. Regulars will know that there is always a Morgan owners parking area set aside, and if you want to find the other Warwickshire folk we should be located on the outside of the circuit at Copse.

SEPTEMBER

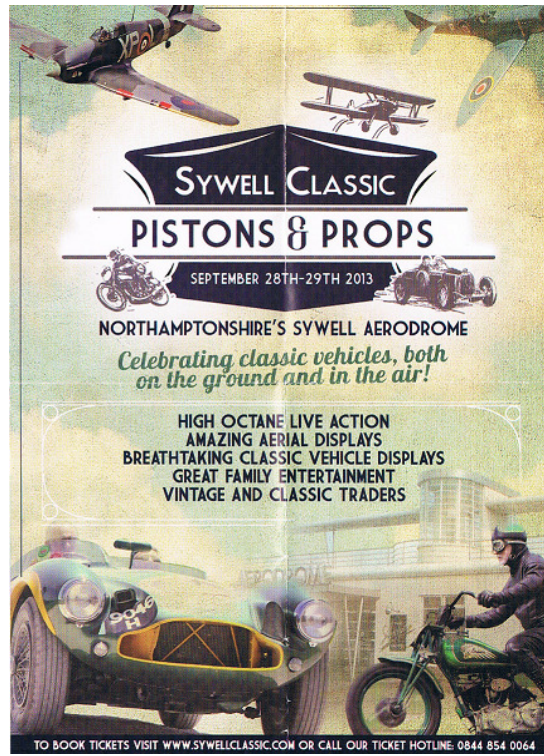
- 28th/29th September 2013 - Sywell Pistons & Props - see the 'flyer' on page 4. To book tickets visit www.sywellclassic.com or telephone Ticket Hotline ☎ 0844 854 0064.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ken Blanch
Phil Morris (Centre Secretary)
Brian Teece
Paul Wheatley (Treasurer)

CENTRE SECRETARY

Phil Morris
Hill Top
25 Westonbirt Close
Kenilworth
Warwickshire
CV8 2PL ☎ *01926 855201*



Proposals for the Warwickshire Centre AGM - Friday 16th August (to be returned to the Centre Secretary at least 48 hours before the meeting)

NAME: for committee member

NAME: for centre secretary

Proposal:
.....
.....

Signed: -

Scan and e-mail to phil.morris@dsp2000.biz or post to Centre Secretary.



GLOUCESTERSHIRE WARWICKSHIRE STEAM RAILWAY
CLASSIC VEHICLE DAY
AT TODDINGTON STATION GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL54 5DT
SUNDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2013

EXHIBITORS ENTRY FORM

Name.....

Address

.....

..... Post Code

Telephone No.

Email Address

DETAILS OF VEHICLE

YEAR (Over 25 years old)

MAKE..... MODEL.....

BRIEF HISTORY

.....

REGISTRATION No.

Please note that your details will be treated in strict confidence and not revealed to any third party

DECLARATION

I declare that my exhibit will be insured against third party risks while taking part in this event and I agree to comply with the railway's regulations.

- 1) **Please be on site by 10.00am and we request that you stay in position till at least 4.00pm**
- 2) **As appreciation for exhibiting your entry, each vehicle will receive a Complimentary Ticket for one round train trip for one person**
- 3) **Please try to submit this form at least 14 days before the date of the event to ensure entry.**
Late entries will be considered, but only if there is still space available.
- 4) **Please sign below and return with a 160mm x 230mm A5 Stamped Addressed Envelope**

Signed..... Date

Please complete and send with SAE to :-

Jim Clarke, Wentworth House, North Street, Westbourne, Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 8SP
Tel. 01243 373788 Email jim@clarkeuk.net

Railway website www.gwsr.com Tel No. 01242 621405