



# STAG OWNERS CLUB

ISSUE 492    APRIL 2024



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**MG TRIUMPH SPARES DAY / DAILY DRIVER IN AUSTRALIA**  
**NORTH COAST 500 / STAG ARCHIVE**  
**KNOW YOUR STAG / SOCTFL AGM**

# STAG OWNERS CLUB

## HONORARY POSITIONS

### President:

**Past Presidents:** Lesley Phillips, Ken Hudson

**Vice-Presidents:** Tony Hart (Founder Member, deceased 2023),  
John Craddock, Stephen Kiefer, Chris Liles,  
Simon Preece, Peter Robinson, Clive Tate

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS



### Chairman: Carl Fuss

Whitehill, Hampshire

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### Treasurer: Clive Tate

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### Secretary: Tracey Cooke

Email: secretary@stag.org.uk

### Vice-Chairman: Peter Robinson

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### Andy Hedley

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The opinions in this magazine are those of the contributors and are not necessarily the official view of the Stag Owners Club nor of its officers. Members are reminded that when purchasing items advertised in the magazine the Stag Owners Club and its officers cannot be held in any way responsible for the quality or correctness of items included in the advertisement. Publication of an advertisement does not constitute a recommendation by the Club.

## OFFICERS

### Membership Secretaries

#### Marilyn & Peter Robinson

The Old Rectory, Aslacton, Norfolk NR15 2JN

Tel: 01379 677735 Email: membership@stag.org.uk

### SOC Registrar and Historian

#### Peter Robinson

Email: registrar@stag.org.uk

### Club Insurance Officer

#### SITUATION VACANT

Email: insurance@stag.org.uk

### Co-ordinator Liaison Officer

#### SITUATION VACANT

### International Liaison Officer

#### SITUATION VACANT

### Triumph Forum representative

#### Andy Headly

### Insurance Valuations Officer & Advisor on MOT requirements for modified Triumph Stags

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### Technical Advice Co-ordinator:

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Email: michael.allen@stag.org.uk

### SOCTFL Chairman

#### Paul Smith

Email: soctfl@stag.org.uk

### Club Website

#### For content: Roger Gray

Email: webeditor@stag.org.uk

#### Anything else

Email: webmaster@stag.org.uk

### Forum Liaison

#### Paul Smith

Forum username 'Committee Liaison'

### Modified Stag Co-ordinator

#### Andy Phillips

Email: modified@stag.org.uk

## GENERAL CLUB INFORMATION

### Change of Address

Please notify the Membership Secretaries, Marilyn & Peter Robinson in writing by post or email only, or from the Members Area on the Website, to ensure that your Magazine is sent to the correct address. It is important to include your POSTCODE.

### Subscription Rates

UK £32, Overseas and Eire £60. Joining Fee £5.  
Digital magazine only £25 No joining fee

### Diary Entries

All diary dates for Area events, other than N&Ns, to the Club Secretary (address opposite). Events must be recorded for insurance purposes.

### MAGAZINE Copy Deadline

All copy for the magazine must be with the Editor by the 10th of the month. Send by email or upload from the member's area on the club website.

### Your magazine didn't arrive

Contact the Membership Secretaries, Marilyn & Peter Robinson.

### Private and Trade Advertising

Please send all advertisements to the Editor. Advertisements can be sent by Email and payment, where necessary, by the 10th of the month.

### Back Issues

A limited number of back issues of the Magazine are obtainable, at £2.50 each incl p&p, from the Membership Secretaries, Marilyn & Peter Robinson.

### Technical Queries

Members are invited to contact the Technical Advice Co-ordinator, Mike Allen (details opposite), with their technical questions and with experiences of how they may have overcome their problems.

### Area Co-ordinators

If you would like to start up a group in your area, give your Regional Co-ordinator a ring.

### Shows Equipment

Rod Scholey organises storage and collection of show equipment.

### FORUM

We have a very active forum for discussing technical and Club matters. This is open for all to view but only paid up Club members may post and reply. Access via the Club website.

### INSURANCE Valuation Service

The Club provides Stag valuations (for a nominal fee) for the sole purpose of insuring under one of the schemes supported by the Club. Valuation Application Forms are available from the insurance section in the members area on the Club Website [www.stag.org.uk](http://www.stag.org.uk)

### Insurance Scheme

The official Club insurance scheme for Members' Stags & other specialist vehicles is underwritten by ERS. Standard benefits include Breakdown and Recovery (including home service) for UK and European Union countries and unlimited Windscreen Cover. Zero administration fees. Complimentary return of cherished salvage (applies to all vehicles over 20 years of age). The scheme is administered for the Club by RH Specialist vehicle insurance. Tel: 0330 912 0018 Email: [rh@ers.com](mailto:rh@ers.com)  
In the event of any query, contact the Club Insurance Officer Email: [insurance@stag.org.uk](mailto:insurance@stag.org.uk) and/or Emma Airey Email: [emma.airey@rhspecialistinsurance.co.uk](mailto:emma.airey@rhspecialistinsurance.co.uk)

### Data Protection Act

Certain membership information is held on a computerised record system which is covered by the Data Protection Act 2018. If any member requires a copy of the information held on themselves, please contact the Membership Secretary in writing.

### WEBSITE

The Club's email address is: [soc@stag.org.uk](mailto:soc@stag.org.uk)  
and the Homepage: [www.stag.org.uk](http://www.stag.org.uk)  
For any Website issues contact: [webmaster@stag.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@stag.org.uk)



# EDITORIAL

**T**hose of you looking through the out and about reports may noticed that several areas do not have co-ordinators.

As a club we do rely on volunteers

I can understand that taking on this role can be a little off-putting for some people, especially if they're not sure of what is expected of them.

In this magazine, I've put together a small notice which will explain the very minimum that is required if you are to become a co-ordinator, it's not as much as you think so have a look in the magazine and you will come across this information

Another possibility is the area without a co-ordinator, possibly merging with a neighbouring area. This has happened several times in the past and generally seems to work out well.

Conversely several areas that were particularly large, have split into two smaller areas with considerable success.

Drive it Day is coming up soon on April the 21st. So please remember to take lots of pictures and send them in for the magazine.

It's not just areas where co-ordinators are required. There are vacancies for regional co-ordinators as well.

Also, we are now needing an insurance officer and a liaison officer. If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact our secretary on [secretary@stag.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stag.org.uk).

Sadly, this month we are saying goodbye to Paul Rowland, a national committee member and regional coordinator for the Southwest and Wales, who passed away suddenly. There is a tribute to Paul in this magazine.

*Carl Fuss*

## ISSUE 492 APRIL 2024

### Front Cover:

The Glendocherty viewpoint  
Pic by Somerset Dorset area

### Back Cover:

Pic by Jason Williams



Published by the Stag Owners Club. © Stag Owners Club 2024.

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The Old Rectory, Aslacton, Norfolk NR15 2JN Tel: 01379 677735

**General enquiries:** Tel. 01379 677735

Designed and printed by The Lavenham Press Ltd.

# WELCOME

# NEW MEMBERS

|               |                 |                  |                |                 |                |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Mr. A.Miles   | Derbyshire      | Mr. J.Douthwaite | Oxfordshire    | Mr. G.Wood      | Australia      |
| Mr. M.Rynhart | Lancashire      | Mr. C.Venni      | Cambridgeshire | Mr. G.Duncan    | Berkshire      |
| Mr. S.Elkins  | East Sussex     | Mr. D.Rackham    | Surrey         | Mr. S.Viroux    | Belgium        |
| Mr. M.Burrows | South Glamorgan | Mr. J.Gough      | Tyne & Wear    | Mr. P.Cox       | Australia      |
| Mr. C.Rush    | Kent            | Mr. C.Rialas     | Hertfordshire  | Mr. N.Wollacott | Surrey         |
| Mr. J.Murray  | Guernsey        | Mr. N.Bruce      | Clywd          | Mr. C.Saxby     | East Yorkshire |
| Mr. C.Crawley | South Glamorgan | Mr. A.Moltu      | Leicestershire |                 |                |

## DIARY DATES 2024

- **Tickets are now on sale for the Club Motul Hill Climb 2024, at Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Saturday 25th May 2024.** Driver Tickets £129 (Breakfast Roll and Hot drink included), Spectator Tickets £20 (Breakfast Roll and Hot drink included). Purchase on the website at [www.clubmotul.co.uk](http://www.clubmotul.co.uk)
- **The Lucas Classic is on Saturday 22nd June 2024 at Shelsley Walsh Hillclimb, Worcester, WR6 6RP.** Free entry for classic cars and all marques are welcome, but the organisers ask that we let them know roughly how many are coming for catering and parking. Look out for more details. More info at [www.thelucasclassic.com](http://www.thelucasclassic.com)  
For those travelling to the Midlands it provides a full weekend of classic fun because the **Standard Triumph Picnic is scheduled on 23rd June near Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.** Free entry for club members.  
The Chairman of the host club the Triumph Pre 1940 Club tells me he will be sending out details shortly.
- **Inter Club International 28-30 June 2024 at Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire.** More details next year and further info at [www.interclubweekend.com](http://www.interclubweekend.com)
- **CLASSIC NOSTALGIA Sunday 21st July 2024**  
Celebrating the Glory Days of Motorsport. Shelsley's Classic Nostalgia weekend is a highlight in the UK's motorsport calendar with the very best racing cars, vintage specials, garden party atmosphere with live music, trade stands and track action with Rally cars and... just cool cars from all eras as anything goes !



**South Birmingham Area have organised an SOC club stand for Sunday 21st July.**

**Tickets for the day are discounted to £15 per person but must be booked by 30th April.**

To buy your tickets at the discounted price:

- Go to [www.shelsleywalsh.com/events-1/classic-nostalgia-car-clubs-2024](http://www.shelsleywalsh.com/events-1/classic-nostalgia-car-clubs-2024)
  - Click on the 'Buy Tickets' button at the top of the page.
  - Scroll down to the page to the Early Bird Car Club Sunday and enter the number of tickets you require. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on Checkout.
  - On the next page it is important that you complete all the boxes that are starred and in the choose your club box, select 'Stag Owners Club' from the drop-down menu.
  - Click on 'Continue and complete the form.'
  - Once you have completed the purchase you will receive an email from Shelsley Walsh confirming your purchase and including your ticket(s).
  - Once you have booked, please send an email to James Scott - [scottygxsr@gmail.com](mailto:scottygxsr@gmail.com) to enable me to keep a total of how many cars are attending to ensure sufficient parking spaces etc.
- **8th September 2024 Standard Triumph Gathering at the Great British Car Journey, Ambergate Derbyshire.** Further details will follow.

# SOC NATIONAL DAY 2024

## BRANDS HATCH • SUNDAY 14 JULY 2024

### WHEN AND WHERE

**T**he Stag Owners Club 2024 National Day will be held at the famous Brands Hatch Race Circuit in Kent, on Sunday 14 July 2024. This is the weekend of the Historic Sports Car Club Legends of Brands Hatch Superprix race meeting, providing an exciting backdrop for our event.

The venue provides the perfect backdrop for this event, with ample facilities and infrastructure to accommodate the estimated 100-140 Stags expected to attend. The event will feature a range of activities and events, including a Parade Lap of Stags, a Best Stag at the Event competition as organised by the Kent Area, Stags on display for public viewing, and access to track side viewing areas.



**Admission for SOC members is at a discounted rate when booked in advance. There are two methods.**

**Both are Direct from the links on the National Day Page on our website**

1. Members can book directly by clicking here. Just to stress, you will only need the code 4424 if you open the above link and choose 'with a club' without using the Direct link.
2. Direct from this link to the Display Application Page You do not need the code for this method  
You must create an account and send a picture of your Stag before you can make a purchase for the event. Follow the stages to add additional passengers. **Effectively the driver gets a half price entry all other tickets are at full price.** Please check on our club website for the latest news as it comes.

### ACCOMMODATION

The Holiday Inn, London Road, Wrotham Heath, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN15 7RS

The Holiday Inn Maidstone/Sevenoaks

Friday 12/07/2024

Saturday 13/07/2024

Please note all rates include breakfast and guests have access to the Spirit Health Club and pool.  
Call 01732 781582 to book directly with the hotel.

**THESE ROOMS ARE NOW SOLD OUT**  
Contact the hotel directly, they may have some rooms available.

### EVENTS AT THE HOLIDAY INN

As we hope many members will make a weekend of it, especially members coming from afar we have two evening events arranged that require advanced booking.

**Friday 12/07/2024** Meet & Greet Finger Buffet. (Limited Numbers so book early to avoid disappointment)

**Saturday 13/07/2024** Two Course Dinner and Disco (Limited Numbers)

Booking and prices for these two options are on the SOC Club website [www.stag.org.uk](http://www.stag.org.uk). To book please login to the members area and go to National Day in the drop down menu.

**The Weald of Kent Stag run also takes place on Saturday 13 July from 10.00–12.00, departing from the Holiday Inn TN15 7RS.**

Starting from the Holiday Inn Car Park, just show the Kent team your Brands Hatch Booking to collect a free SOC National Day Rally Plaque. Then pick up a free Tulip route card, and away you go. Buble through picturesque villages and pass historic castles, plus there are lots of Weald locations to admire. Also, stop for a coffee or lunch in your own pace. Before returning in time to relax and get ready for Saturday's Dinner & Disco.

### SOC NATIONAL DAY 2024 RALLY PLAQUE

These will be free to every member who books a ticket through Brands Hatch. They can be collected from Friday 12th July at the Holiday Inn or on the day at the club stand at Brands Hatch.



Check the SOC Club website [www.stag.org.uk](http://www.stag.org.uk) for the latest information



## WANTED ... WANTED

REGIONAL CO-ORDINATORS ARE NEEDED FOR THE SOUTH CENTRAL AND SOUTH WEST ENGLAND AND WALES REGIONS

**R**egional and Area Co-ordinators assist the Committee in the running of the Club by overseeing events in their locality and generally furthering the Club's aims and objectives. They provide the vital link between the membership and the National Committee.

The role of the Regional Co-ordinator is to:

- 1) Support the Area Co-ordinators in the achievement of their role expectations.
- 2) Act as a point of reference and assistance for Area Co-ordinators.
- 3) Arbitrate in disputes at an Area level.
- 4) Act as a liaison point between Area Co-ordinators within the Region and the National Committee via the Co-ordinators' Liaison Officer.
- 5) Keep the Area Co-ordinators within the Region informed on Club matters.

Extract of Regional Co-ordinator Conditions

- 1) All Regional Co-ordinators to have been members of the Club for at least 5 years and to have held a previous position as a Club Official, e.g. Area Co-ordinator, Club Officer, National Committee member.
- 2) Regional Co-ordinators to be appointed by the National Committee.
- 3) Regional Co-ordinators to seek a vote of confidence from their Region's Area Co-ordinators at the beginning of each year with the result of the vote being advised to the National Committee via the Liaison Officer. The outcome of such a vote shall not be binding on the National Committee as far as continuation of the Regional Co-ordinator in the role is concerned.

Contact the Club Secretary [secretary@stag.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stag.org.uk)

## NEW CO-ORDINATORS' LIAISON OFFICER REQUIRED

### THE ROLE OF THE CO-ORDINATORS' LIAISON OFFICER

1. Working with other Club officers:
  - To circulate as necessary information for the Club's Areas.
  - To ensure the Co-ordinators' Advice is always up to date on the website
  - To ensure the Co-ordinators' Area on the website is up to date
2. To refer any disputes or suggestions to the Regional Co-ordinators.
3. To consider the suggestion of a new Area being formed with the relevant Regional Co-ordinator/s.
4. To remind and ensure that the Area Officers are in support annually of the Regional Co-ordinators.
5. To remind and ensure that the annual elections for Co-ordinators and Deputies are carried out appropriately through the Regional Co-ordinators.
6. To report to and liaise with the National Committee and with Regional and Area Co-ordinators.
7. To circulate the monthly membership lists to Co-ordinators.
8. To run the two Co-ordinators meeting (Spring and Winter) each year, drawing assistance and suggestions from the Co-ordinators themselves.

Lesley will hand the role over and introduce the new Officer at the Co-ordinators' meeting in April 2024. If you are interested or for any further information. Contact the Club Secretary: [secretary@stag.org.uk](mailto:secretary@stag.org.uk)

A JOINT EVENT FOR CLUBS - WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER!



# THE INTER-CLUB INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND

**28 - 30 JUNE, 2024**  
Three Counties Showground, Malvern

**FEATURING A TRADE, CLUB AND MOTORSPORT ZONE WITH PRECISION DRIVING DISPLAYS!**

- CELEBRITY GUESTS
- SPECIALIST TRADE & AUTOJUMBLE
- CRAFTS AND FASHION
- FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT
- CAMPING ON-SITE (OPTIONAL)
- BAR AND LIVE MUSIC
- MOSS EUROPE LIVE ACTION ARENA
- CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE
- SHOW & SHINE
- AUTOTEST & DRIVING DISPLAYS
- LOCAL ROAD TOURS
- MORGAN FACTORY TOUR
- COACH TRIPS TO WORCESTER
- EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

**- A NOT-FOR-PROFIT EVENT -**

Meet our guest, Sarah Crabtree:  
"Supporting our car clubs is something the Evoke Classics team feel very strongly about. We are excited to be part of the Inter-club Weekend!"



**MONEY OFF ALL PRE-BOOKED ENTRY TICKETS WITH OUR CLUB CODE:**

**TRSOC24**




**Book online now:**  
[WWW.INTERCLUBWEEKEND.COM](http://WWW.INTERCLUBWEEKEND.COM)

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## A QUICK GUIDE TO THE WEBSITE PART 3

### THE INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE

Clicking the Interactive Magazine button on the home page will take you to the current page in the Magazine archive section where the latest magazines are, then click on the one you want to view. The Interactive Magazine contains video, live hyperlinks and can also be downloaded as a PDF.

The magazine archive also contains all of the club magazines, from No. 1 to the very latest.

Here are all the Club Magazines ever published by the Stag Owners Club.

These are on the website as easily viewable "flipbooks". On the right are links to each year's set of magazines.

Below is an index of the content, compiled by Chris Liles. Once you have found what you're looking for the numbers indicate the total page number.

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STAG OWNERS CLUB MAGAZINE - (VOL.1) Issues 1-48 (from 1979 to November 2022 inclusive)

Compiled by Chris Liles for members guidance only. No liability will be accepted for inaccuracies from members.

HOME / CLUB MAGAZINES 2024 ISSUE 490 ONWARDS

To view the magazines **CLICK** on the cover.  
To **EXIT** Full Screen and return to the list of magazines, select the 'Exit Full Screen' button at the bottom right or press 'esc'.  
For iPad and tablet users, enlarge the page until the chosen magazine fills the screen then start to view.


**IMPORTANT CHANGES**  
You now have the option to print, all or just a selection of pages, to your printer or save as a PDF.  
You can also download the entire magazine as a PDF.




Issue 490 February 2024      Issue 491 March 2024

**DESKTOP**

Issue 490 February 2024



Issue 491 March 2024

AA      stag.org.uk

**MOBILE**

# MG TRIUMPH SPARES DAY

## STONELEIGH - 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024



**W**e tried something different at the MG Triumph Spares Day this year, and in my humble opinion it worked very well.

The committee decided last year to stop doing the NEC March Restoration show largely due to the escalating costs of doing two NEC based shows per year. We instead decided to put some more effort into the one-day Stoneleigh based MG and TRIUMPH Spares Day. We requested and were awarded a double sized stand. We had a similar sized stand to the November NEC show but at a fraction of the cost.

Being a one day show the show team only had 2 elapsed days to worry about instead of 5, BONUS! Because of the extra space, we put 4 cars on show along with SOCTFL having their own gazebo to demonstrate to the public what it is they do day-by-day, week in week out...

We had a vibrant and entertaining stand with a range of cars on show. Mark's in the process of refurbishment, Steve's tastefully modified and Dave and Tim's excellent examples of what the Stag offers, a truly iconic and eminently practical British classic. Thanks to the owners for bringing their cars along. I think they all enjoyed the experience. Their comments follow my boring bit, so we'll see.

The show was well attended, and we were busy talking to members and the public alike all day. Lots of tea and coffee was consumed along with the biscuits of course.

Because we had the extra room, we were able to not only have SOCTFL in pride of place but also have our accessories there too.

Membership applications were good for a one-day show, and we added 4 new members, 5 lapsed members returning, and 2 renewals.





Now for the car owner comments...

The Stoneleigh show was very good. We liked the fact it was mainly indoors, made things a lot easier with our unpredictable weather. The unit was clean & we felt well looked after from the time we entered with how good the security & organisers were.

As for the auto jumble, plenty of variety and Mark found things he didn't even know he wanted. Ha ha! The atmosphere was relaxed and friendly with plenty of people interacting and offering advice.

Mark and I were delighted to be able to show his car. Chuffed to bits with the attention it got. Thank you for the opportunity to show it.

We enjoyed being part of the stag club and thank you to all members on the day.

### *Tammie & Mark Rollason*

It was a privilege to represent our club at the Stoneleigh show and help with any questions about our cars. Mine had the hard top fitted which had a lot of interest as it makes the car very comfortable during the winter months. I let some people sit in the car who then went on to join the club - they just needed to see what they were like from the driving seat.

The four cars on the stand were all different which helped answer some of the questions we had between the models with all the changes over the years. We were fortunate that it didn't rain going to the show, so the final polish wasn't too much of a problem.

Helping to set up the stand on the Saturday goes to show how much effort our committee put in to make our stand look so professional for the show. A big thank you to them and the other exhibitors and thanks for letting me display my Stag.

### *Steve Bedford*



I have been a member of SOC for twenty years but am not well known within it, which is completely my fault for not getting more involved. We have been to a number of events and have partaken of the club's tea and biscuits (as Lesley will confirm) but that's about it. When Tony put out the request for cars to put on show, volunteering mine gave me a reason to ensure it was back together after the best part of a year off the road.

Our car was on the front corner of the stand which made us almost the first thing people saw when they walked in the main entrance. Perhaps this was an honour; on the other hand, perhaps the more seasoned exhibitors in the club asked not to go in this spot as we were soon inundated with the public interested in the car!

I was doing my best to enlist new members and asked one guy who walked on the stand whether he had a Stag. When this was answered positively, I asked if he was a club member, to which the answer was 'Yes.... I'm a Committee member'. My excuse is that Andy doesn't look like his magazine photo....

It was surprisingly tiring, standing and talking all day but the ever-present tea and biscuits helped, thank you to the catering volunteers. We were made to feel very welcome by all the club members who were attending and learned a lot about how other people have dealt with various issues on their cars. Roger even sorted out my stalling problem just by giving my carburettors a stern talking to - my journey home was without the problems I had suffered on the Saturday. We certainly look forward to attending further events in the future.

Finally, many thanks to the organising committee, presumably led by Tony, for ensuring it all went to plan.

*Tim & Julie Shurrock*





On Saturday, we arrived in the afternoon to set the stand up. However, with all the rain that day there were a lot of roads closed with heavy flooding, so although I had cleaned the Stag before we left, when it was on the stand, I had to give it another quick clean. As there were plenty of helpers there the stand was soon set up and we were able to leave in plenty of time to get home.

On Sunday I had an early start as Tony picked me up at 7 am as we had anticipated long queues due to the flooding and road closures. The show started at 9:30 but there were long queues of eager attendees from 9am, which made it very busy as soon as the show started. Unfortunately, a lot of people who were not from the area got stuck in the traffic jams and diversions and arrived later. As normal, there was a lot of interest in the Stag stand with a lot of people asking what the cars were like to tour in. As I had done this several times with the family, camping, I was able to talk them through this and demonstrate how much space there is for packing, which includes the boot and if the hood is up, the hood storage area becomes a second boot, ideal for storing soft items such as soft bags, sleeping bags and blankets.

The amount of interest began to drop off around 2pm when people started to leave, as a lot had quite long journeys to get home with some visitors having travelled from a distance. When the show ended at 4.30pm it was then time to break the stand down and travel home in bright sunshine with a full rainbow, I was fully expecting it to be raining, but luckily it didn't, because of course, I had the roof down enjoying the early spring sunshine.

*David Payne (17397)*



Back to me now I'm afraid. David has reminded me what a rainy weekend it was. The main approach to the show ground from the south was flooded and it was touch and go from the north too. The attendance could have gone downhill BUT as I said earlier, we were pleasantly surprised at the numbers there.

My eternal gratitude to all who helped the Stag Owners Club offer something quite special.

Dave and Margaret Buxton, Bill and Kate Fannon, Andrew Bradbury, Steve Buxton, Paul Thomas (accessories), Roger and Lesley Phillips, the SOCTFL team of Paul Smith, Russell Lewis and Roger Kennedy, the car owners of course, Tim and Julie Shurrock, David Payne with Grahm Trussell, Steve Bedford and Peter Goodman, Mark Rollason and Tammie Dunn and of course the setup team of Rod Scholey, Martin Mills and our Sam.



**Tony Lapworth**  
*Works/Leics Co-ordinator*



# THRUXTON HISTORIC

## 22<sup>ND</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2024



To purchase discounted car club tickets and supply vehicle details for a free club display vehicle pass visit the dedicated car club ticket booking page (see link below). Each order allows you to book one free vehicle display pass with the driver and any passenger tickets.

Adult Car Club Tickets: One day £15, Weekend £28. Children 15 years and under admitted free with an adult ticket holder.

How to purchase discounted tickets:

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Car Club tickets must be booked by 2pm Monday 17th June. Tickets and display vehicle passes will be sent to club members by first class post on or before this date.

If you book a ticket please drop me a line to my SOC email, so I can keep abreast of how many Stags to expect.

**Glyn, Wiltshire Coordinator** Mob: 07584124656 Email: [wiltshire@stag.org.uk](mailto:wiltshire@stag.org.uk)

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# THE CLUB STAG ARCHIVE

## The Triumph Story, Part 3 – The First Bicycle Works

**A**t the end of Part 2 we left old Siegfried at the point in his life (1887) when he had made the most adventurous decision to date, to move from being a seller of other people's things into being a manufacturer of his own products, to wit: Triumph bicycles, and he had just acquired premises in Coventry.

There are few photos of his first premises in Much Park Street. No, that's not true, there are NO photos at all of his first premises. However, there are a few old shots of buildings in Much Park Street taken before the war and although I have seen it stated that the Triumph works was eventually occupied by the local police force and that the current law courts sit squarely on top of where Bettmann and Scholte made their first bicycles, I have discovered that this is a load of old baloney. You heard it here first folks!



*This is Much Park Street but it is not the first premises of Triumph Cycle Co Ltd. !*

There is a photograph in existence (check out [www.triumphworks.co.uk](http://www.triumphworks.co.uk)) purporting to be of the Standard Triumph buildings being demolished. The building being demolished in that photo is the building immediately to the right of the rather ornate 3-storey one to the right of centre in the above photo – the ornate one being the Midland Brewery. However, that building is the one which Standard Motor Co. occupied, not the one which Triumph occupied – and they were different companies in 1890.

The fact that the address of the Triumph Cycle Co. was quoted as 'Earls Court' indicates to me that the building was not a very imposing one but was behind the main thoroughfare in a back yard, or 'court'. There seems to be only one record of the premises being enlarged while

Triumph were there but they must have been fairly large in order to allow for the expansion of the company as sales progressed.

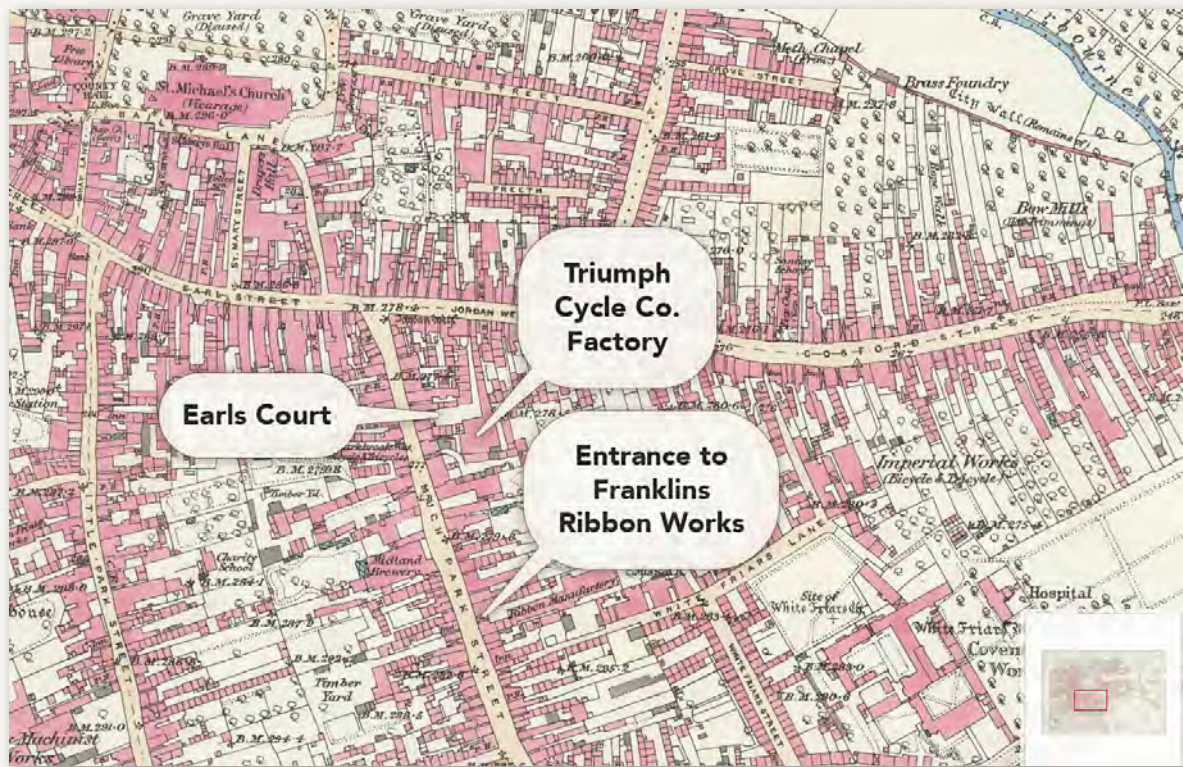


*One of the 'courts' on Much Park Street, Coventry. Were Triumph Bicycles first made in the buildings around a yard like this?*

In order to cover things which nobody else has covered in anything I have read on the subject, let us consider the actual building in which the first Triumph bicycles were made I refer you to the large map, which is from the 1889 Ordnance Survey 25 inch series. This shows Much Park Street and the surrounding streets up to the old cathedral (or St Michael's Church as it was in 1889 as it was not 'ordained' as a cathedral until 1918 ), which is in the South East corner of Coventry city centre and not very far away at all from Much Park Street.

Having spent more than a few hours trying to find out where the Triumph factory was, I can reveal that it is the building which I have marked with one of those 'speech bubbles' which you used to get in your comics many years ago. 'Earls Court' is the space next to it and is also marked with a 'speech bubble'.

The key to all this is that in 1897, the Triumph Cycle Co. Ltd. started to market a second range of bicycles, using the name 'Gloria' and although the building is not identified on the 1889 map, it is clearly marked as 'Gloria Works' on later maps. Before 1889 it was an old ribbon works and it would seem as if the owner, Alderman Tomson, reduced his ribbon works to a much smaller set



1889 map of Much Park Street.

of buildings to the North of what became Gloria Works and separated the two sets of buildings. It would therefore appear as if the Triumph premises did not actually include the buildings on Much Park Street itself but were situated in a 'yard' or 'court' behind the on-street buildings (in fact behind nos 13, 14 and 15) and with entrances between nos.11 & 12 and nos.14 & 15 (entrances are denoted by the elongated 'X's on the building plans, showing that there is a space under the first floor which acts as an entrance to what is behind). These entrances are normally like the one shown in the earlier photo, which is an archway under the first floor part of the house. The photo actually shows the entrance from the road to Franklin's Ribbon Works and is between nos. 30 & 31 further down the road (and also marked on the large map).

### The Yards and Courts

Perhaps, at this point, I may be allowed to digress a little further while I try to set the scene where all this bicycle manufacturing was taking place.

When I came across the 'court' system in Norwich I had some difficulty in understanding what it was and how it came about as it just seemed like higgledy-piggledy building without any planning or end point. And that is just what it was. Originally, in Coventry, as in Norwich and other medieval large towns and cities in the UK, the roads would have been lined with houses – in the case of Much Park Street, they went back three or four hundred years.

What then happened is that the merchants and other owners started to build extensions for their businesses to work from, or for their relatives to live in – or just to let out to make money, and without today's planning departments, and over 100 or 200 years, this just grew until it occupied the whole of the garden (and whatever



*A medieval house in Coventry, just like the ones in Much Park Street – in fact, this is nos. 8,9 & 10 Much Park Street, which was dismantled and restored in nearby Spon Street (look it up on Google, it is quite remarkable).*

the merchant could steal from next door).

To gain access to these extra properties, provision was made to go through the house and this was done by way of a tunnel – or perhaps by way of the passage to the side of the house, which was then built over (see second pic).

In today's terms, imagine living in a normal suburban semi and then deciding that you wanted a garage, which you built behind the kitchen. And then you wanted a workshop – which you built behind the garage. And then you wanted a sun room, which you built on the other side of the garden adjoining the house. And then a garage extension, a swimming pool and changing building, a greenhouse, a garden shed, etc. etc. You would end up with a thin passage of garden with buildings of some sort each side and with access down the driveway – which you would then build over with a fourth bedroom.

Today, that would be somewhat controlled by planning laws but in 1750 there was no control and these 'courts' became slums with 50 or 60 people living behind the

road frontage and without basic amenities such as running water and sewage disposal. No wonder they were mostly cleared after the war with justification coming by way of the bomb damage which many such cities suffered.



*The result of the Coventry Blitz on 14th November 1940. This destruction justified the modern development of the old courts.*

The photo above shows the corner of Jordan Well and Much Park Street in the middle of the photo with Much Park Street running towards the top right hand corner.

Nos 1-6 were destroyed. No 7 can be seen (see photo on the last page of the article) and 11 & 12 are the taller buildings towards the right hand edge of the photo. Gloria Works is in there somewhere to the right of the Odeon, which is top centre.

In an enlarged view you can get a better idea of the buildings at the top of Much Park Street.



*The top end of Much Park Street 1940. The first Triumph works is just above the centre of the photo running behind the Odeon.*

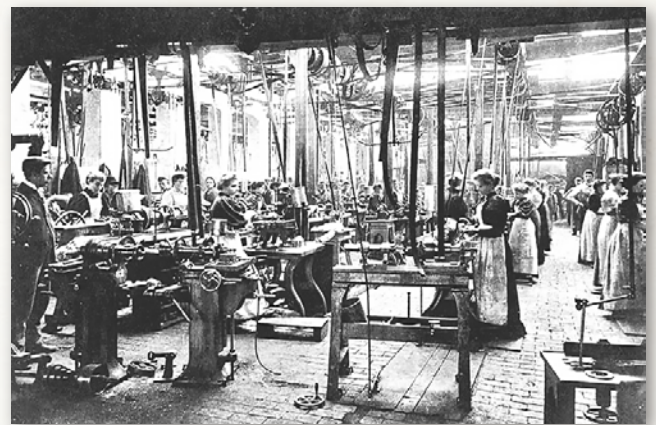
It would appear as if the Gloria Works were extended behind the Odeon into the spaces behind where trees are shown in the large map. If you google 'Earl St bomb damage Getty Images' you will be able to focus on the individual buildings and identify them from the street maps.

### What was it like to work there ?

I'm not even going to try to describe it to you but just take a look at the two photos below and try to imagine.



*The Singer bicycle factory, 1897.*



*The Coventry Eagle bicycle factory, 1911.*

A pretty basic business really, The first photo is the assembly room at the Singer factory whilst the second shows a machining room but I'm not sure what they are machining. Lots of shaft & belt drives though. Although I was never around in 1911, I did see the end of British manufacturing in the early eighties and I can imagine what it was like in either factory. Can you ?

### And the neighbours were ...

Just to complete the picture, Much Park Street was full of interesting businesses and in terms of automotive history, William Hillman (yes, the man whose company eventually went on to produce the Imp and the Hunter) ran a bicycle manufactory at no. 134 (which, despite having a much higher street number was almost opposite No. 12, as the street numbers in Much Park Street run down the East side and back up the West side – strange !). Hillman's business at the time was known as the Sparkbrook Manufacturing Co. Ltd. and it is marked on the large map.

If you waited around for a few years – until 1903 – about 4 doors to the South of the Sparkbrook company premises you would find the Standard Motor Company Ltd. making their first motor car.





The 'Gloria Works' just right of centre was the original Triumph bicycle factory. This view is from a 1906 map.

This is now gone – and gone forever. The Sparkbrook premises was destroyed during WWII and the Standard works was demolished in 1964. I believe that the Gloria Works continued to make bicycles until 1937 when Lea Francis Engineering Ltd. moved in and made cars there until 1963.



No 7 Much Park Street just before demolition in the late 1960s. Nos 8-10 had just gone, along with 11-16 and the Gloria Works. Everything to the left had been destroyed in the Coventry Blitz of 1940 but Lady Godiva made the best of it. The interesting thing about this photo is that Lea Francis have arrowed the direction to their factory – which was the old Triumph one.



The same scene 50 years later. LGs fruit stall has had a make-over and someone has built the Richard Crossman Building where the rabbit warren of 'courts' used to be.

It is now under the South East corner of the Richard Crossman Building and the Northern end of the Sir John Laing Building – both of which are now occupied by Coventry University.

**Anyway, on with the main story ...**

In their new premises, Siegfried and Mauritz got on with the process of making bicycles, at first they put together and finished parts which were supplied by their bicycle maker, William Andrews, but soon took to assembling the whole bicycle, and sales went very well alongside their other interest, which was the sewing machine business in London that they had entrusted to another German emigrant, Philip Schloss.



An advert from 1891. The company now had an agency in Holborn Viaduct and a North London Depot as well as a head office in Coventry.

In order to take full advantage of the situation, the company reorganised and took on new director/investors – Philip Schloss, Alderman Tomson (their landlord), ribbon trader Alfred Friedlander and George Sawyer, Bettman's 'boss' at the White Sewing Machine Co. in London. The resulting capital was £2,000 and the directors were protected by converting the business into a limited company, named the 'Triumph Cycle Co. Ltd.

In 1890 the bicycle boom was on and the new company did well, so well that in 1895 they attracted the attention of Dunlop. Although you may not know it, Dunlop were based in Dublin and Bettmann was invited to visit their head office, where Dunlop informed him that they wished to invest in Triumph. The firm was therefore reorganised with a capital of £45,000 with the benefit that a number of bicycle dealers which had recently been acquired by Dunlop became Triumph agents. Things were going from good to better very quickly and soon after the company was again reorganised, this time going public, the share issue raising the company capital to £170,000.

*Peter Robinson*

**Next month: Motorcycles**

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# IN MEMORY OF PAUL ROWLAND

**W**e are sad to announce that Regional Coordinator for South West England & Wales and National Committee member Paul Rowland passed away suddenly on Friday 1st March.

Paul had been a member of the SOC for approximately 20 years and has been an active and supportive member being Deputy Coordinator, Coordinator, Regional Coordinator and Committee Member. Paul's story started with South Wales when he was the Deputy Coordinator and Colin Evans was Coordinator. The South Wales Area covered from the Severn Bridge to Pembrokeshire and it became clear that an Area based in Cardiff was not serving the needs of many members in South Wales so in 2008 a decision was taken to split the area into two and in doing so the West Wales Area was formed. The first meeting of West Wales was held in The Glamorgan Arms, Pontlliw on the outskirts of Swansea in about 2008.

Paul Rowland, his father Eric and about 20 others attended this first meeting and so the West Wales Area was formed with members stretching from Swansea to Pembrokeshire forming the nucleus of the membership. Agreement at national level was reached to form the West Wales Area and Colin Evans became the first Area Coordinator with Paul Rowlands as the Deputy Coordinator.

The new Area went from strength to strength but eventually, when Colin moved further east to live in Cardiff, the distance was just that little bit too far for Colin to do justice to both Areas. Paul stepped up to the plate and took over the West Wales Area as Coordinator and success continued with Drives and Shows which became a feature of the Area activities. When needed, Paul moved the Area HQ to various venues to suit the West Wales Area membership. The Coordinator changed several times over the years, but Paul always remained at the heart of the Area either as Coordinator or Deputy.

As time went on the West Wales Area moved further west and ended up in Haverfordwest which again caused an issue for those living around the Swansea area. Again, Paul stepped in and was instrumental in setting up the South West Wales Area. This was formed in 2016 with Paul being the first Coordinator for the newly formed area. Under his leadership he organised runs and attended shows around the Swansea/Llanelli area with great success. He continued to support all the following Coordinators of the South West Wales Area and carried on being an active member of the area.

During the next few years the West Wales closed and remained that way until 2023 when a member Nick Cale expressed an interest in revitalising the West Wales Area. Paul approached the National Committee and in September of that year the West Wales Area was reborn with Paul taking up the role of Deputy Coordinator. Paul was looking forward to supporting the revitalised West Wales Area in the coming Summer period.



Paul in 2018 took on the role of Regional Coordinator representing South West England and Wales and on the National Committee. Recently he took on the role as Security Officer for SOC. He also turned his attention to members in North Wales by giving support to of the North Wales Area.

Tributes have been received from the Coordinators within his area and from the National Committee all expressing the same thoughts that Paul was a very friendly and likeable person always willing to help members of the SOC our deepest sympathies and thoughts go to his wife Carol, family and friends.

**Paul will be sadly missed by all who knew him.** Di and I have some splendid memories of the time we spent together at AGMs, National days or when delivering area equipment to him, which just happened to include a nice lunch. My time with Paul on the committee was most enjoyable, productive and his enthusiasm and input was welcomed and valuable. Rest in Peace my friend.

*Tony Lapworth Former chairman SOC*

**I was deeply saddened by the news of Paul's sudden and untimely death.** Although I have only known Paul for a short time since joining the SOC two years ago, I have appreciated his quiet and caring friendship during that time, and especially his support and encouragement as we revived the WW Area last year. We will very much miss his convivial company at Area N&Ns and his knowledge and experience of all things Stag-related.

*Nick Cale Coordinator West Wales*

So very sorry. Our deepest condolences to his family. Paul was a brilliant Regional Coordinator and will be sadly missed by us all.

**Sue Franklin** Deputy Coordinator Devon

During the years of knowing Paul, I found him to be a good friend and a supportive and active member who thought nothing about helping in any way he could. He would be willing to pass on his knowledge regarding the Stag to everyone. We have lost a good friend and member he will be missed by all those who knew him.

**Clive Perman** Coordinator South West Wales

Paul will be sadly missed by the members he served. He played a major role within the Stag Owners Club at local, regional and national level and sometimes at all three levels at the same time. He took over the relatively newly formed Area in South West Wales and built it into an active and successful part of the SOC Club.

**Colin Evans** Coordinator South Wales

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## YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU AREA CO-ORDINATORS - WHAT'S INVOLVED?

**E**ver thought of becoming an SOC Area Co-ordinator, but been put off by all that might be expected of you?

Well here is the minimum effort version of what you can get away with.

1. Organise a monthly meeting, this will probably involve going to a pub and eating, drinking and talking. See not too bad so far.
2. Be a point of contact – answer phone calls, respond to emails etc
3. Delegate

The last one is probably the most useful, hopefully there will be members in your area who will be willing to organise a run out or something, but on a one off basis.

Writing the monthly report for the magazine, this can vary from nothing to pages and pictures although details of the monthly meeting is helpful. Again, the mantra - **DELEGATE**

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# KNOW YOUR STAG #23

## THE DASH AND GAUGES

**W**hen you drive your Stag you will look at your dashboard ten times every minute but did you know that the look of the Stag dash changed subtly over the eight years that it was in production ?

The very first Stag, that which was remodelled by Michelotti in Turin, was originally fitted with the Triumph 2000 dashboard.



*A 1964 Triumph 2000 dash – just like the one in the car sent to Turin for Michelotti to work on.*

This was remodelled in Italy but Triumph eventually opted for their own design, which is the one you will all be familiar with and this was a totally different affair. The detail design work is generally attributed to Dave Keepax, a design draughtsman within the Engineering Department.



*A 1976 Stag dash – which looks nothing like that of the T2000 from which it was derived.*

### The Basics

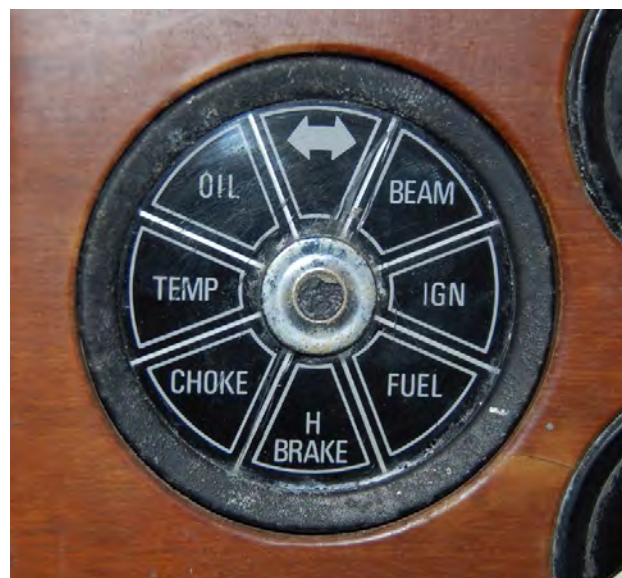
All Stags came with two 4" main gauges which sit right in front of your eyes. The tachometer sits to the right and the speedometer/odometer to the left. To the left of the speedometer sits the temperature gauge and the battery condition gauge, with the temperature gauge underneath the battery condition gauge. To the left of these is a warning indicator cluster (or pie gauge if you want to use just one of its alternative names) in which the segments indicate warnings. To the right of the tachometer sit the clock and the fuel gauge, the clock being on top of the fuel gauge.

### The Warning Indicator Cluster

This wonderful little device was devised in-house within the Triumph Engineering Department drawing office during 1963/64.

The first car it appeared on was the 1300 FWD compact saloon of 1965, then the Mk2 versions of the 2000 saloon range of 1969 and finally, the Stag – although as the T2000 saloons were remodelled in the form of the Stag but just happened to be released first, it could be said that the Stag was the second model to incorporate the gauge and the T2000 range the third.

It is slightly larger than the minor gauges being approximately 60mm (or 2 3/8" in real money).



*A Mk1 Stag warning cluster. The segment warnings are obvious and light up when a warning is indicated. This is a very early gauge so please forgive the crusty bezel.*

Each segment of the first Warning Indicator Cluster has a small festoon style bulb behind it, shining through an etched glass lens which lights up with the various warnings.

You should note the temperature segment at 9 o'clock. This was to report the temperature of the cooling water flowing through the back of the LH cylinder head but Triumph decided that this idea was not very helpful and soon rendered it 'non-working' when the service instruction was to clip the wire from the gauge. Read what you like into that instruction.

When the dash on the Stag was remodelled for the 1973 model year cars i.e. those now called the Mk2 cars (from commission number LD 20000 onwards), the segment functions were changed and a multicoloured filter was incorporated into the glass front lens which allowed the segment's etched glass to show up the warnings in different colours.

Whereas the first version of the Warning Light Cluster differed from those in the T1300 version, the redesigned cluster reverts to the same warnings as those originally used on the T1300.

The Warning Light Cluster stayed this way until the end of production in June 1977.



*A Mk2 Stag warning light cluster. The segments are: Main Beam, Ignition, Low Fuel, RH Indicator, Handbrake, Choke, LH Indicator, Low Oil Pressure. With the filter behind the lens, the warning functions are much more difficult to read until the little warning lamps are illuminated.*

### The Main Gauges Mk1 v Mk2

All the gauges for Stag were originally manufactured by Smiths Industries and that is confirmed on the front of each gauge. All but the clock stayed with Smiths for the duration of manufacture. The clock, however, was changed to a Kienzle unit during the course of production but I will deal with the clock next month as it is not strictly a 'gauge'.

Although the gauges do the same job before and after the 1973 dash restyling, there are minor differences to their presentation with the three minor gauges having their pointer needles hanging down from the top of each gauge to scales at the bottom of each gauge.



*The normal Mk 1 ancillary gauges with needles pointing down. When new, the temp and volt meters had red paint blocks to indicate the 'danger' points. Over the years these have faded on the pictured gauges.*

Whereas for the later gauges (from 1973), the needles are pointing upwards from pivot points at the bottom of each gauge with scales towards the top of each gauge. The minor gauges are classed as 2" (52mm) diameter.



*The normal Mk 2 ancillary gauges with needles pointing upwards.*

There are also differences in the two central gauges:



*The Mk 1 (left) and Mk 2 (right) speedometers. The differences are fairly obvious.*



*The Mk 1 and Mk 2 tachometers. Again, the differences are fairly obvious.*

The Mk1 gauges were surrounded by a satin black bezel. but, as you can see, the bezels to all the Mk2 gauges show a chromed ring on the very top face of the bezel.

As with everything Stag, the cars destined for different markets have some different features but luckily, in respect of the gauges, this is limited to the speedometer where there is a version with the KPH markings being more prominent and within the outside ring – obviously fitted where the kilometre is the local measurement of distance rather than the mile.

#### A Bit More Detail

If you consult the parts catalogue you will find the part numbers of the various gauges. These are not necessarily easy to follow but they are :

- **Speedometer**  
215185 (Mk 1), 218807 (Mk 2), TKC2125 (1976 onward)
- **Tachometer**  
215187 (Mk 1), 218838 (Mk 2)
- **Fuel gauge**  
150646 (Mk 1), 159604 (Mk 2)
- **Battery condition gauge**  
150645 (Mk 1), 159605 (Mk 2)
- **Temperature gauge**  
150644 (Mk 1), 157273 (late Mk 1), 159607 (Mk 2)

The 1976 speedometer (introduced at commission number LD 35940) is only slightly different from the earlier Mk 2 version. The total mileage and trip mileage have been swapped over from top to bottom as has the legends 'SMITHS' and 'KPH'.

The situation in respect of the temperature gauge is a bit more difficult to sort out as the first part number, 150644, disappears very quickly from the parts catalogues – it only appears in the very first 1970 Graphic Catalogue and I cannot find any confirmed information to show any differences until the Mk 2 version of the gauge appears. I have seen other styles of temp gauges fitted but I have not yet found any proof that these are not aftermarket gauges used when the original has failed.



*The speedometer used for all Stags after commission number LD 35940.*

The photo of the Mk 1 temperature gauge on the previous page is from a very early car so that will be the first one used. Is there actually a middle version? Or is the difference within the gauge itself so that it is difficult to see in any photograph. Answers on a postcard please.

#### The Dashboard Itself

There is nothing like finishing the article where you should have started it, is there?

Of course, the first thing I should have told you is that the dashboard is made of formed ply secured into the steel backing framework by four cup screws. It is veneered with straight grained American walnut.

That's it, the first part of the dash story. Next month I will try to deal with the other bits and pieces which are incorporated into the dash..

**Peter Robinson**

© Peter Robinson 2024

## TECHNICAL HINTS & TIPS

**O**ften technical information gets lost within the area reports, so here's a couple from Rupert Klaiber.

My recently purchased tonneau seal fits like a ready made shirt on a pump handle, but I have no idea whether the car is as original, and glueing the seal is not a sensible option as it sits in a drainage channel. Also, is it possible that excessive paint thickness would prevent straightforward fitting of external door handle gaskets, or are the gaskets simply too thick? In any case accessing the mechanism is far from easy - I wonder whether the design intended to increase dealership workshop time and charges? No doubt the current madness of placing master cylinders and starter motors within the bell housing is a moneymaker. However, judicious filing of the upper location channel on Mike H.'s door handles allowed final fitting.

Subsequently, thought turned to re-engineering the door panel push fit locators by using suitably sized nylon nuts and bolts. With the head depth reduced to allow flush panel fit and centre drilled to take a cup screw, glue the nut and bolt (to prevent rotation) to the door. The inner panel, carefully marked, is then offered up and secured with neat row of stainless steel cup screws. This method may be used wherever there is access to affix a nut within the door void.

**Rupert Klaiber**

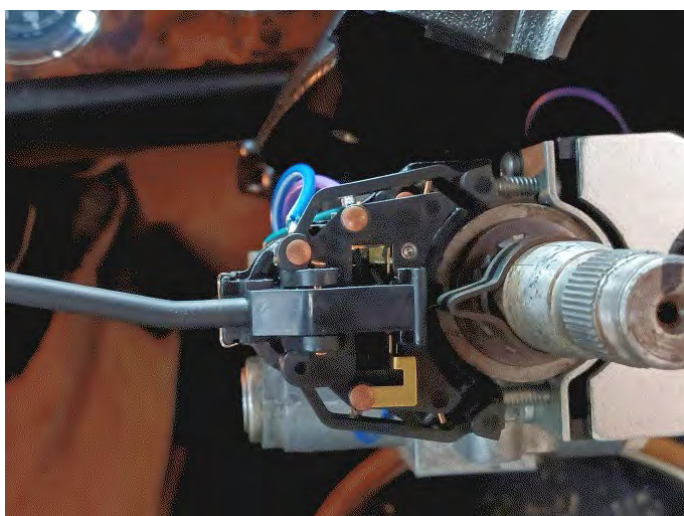
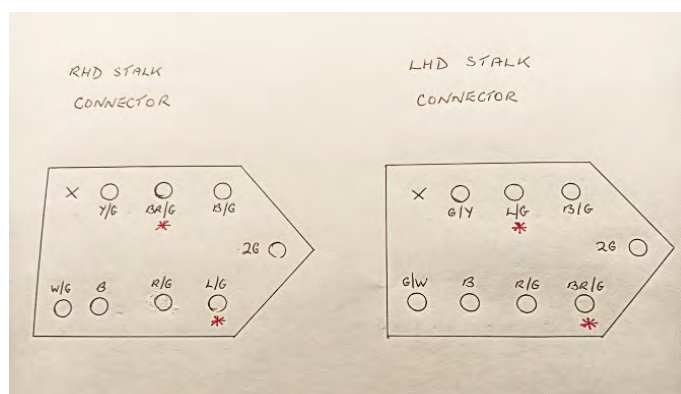
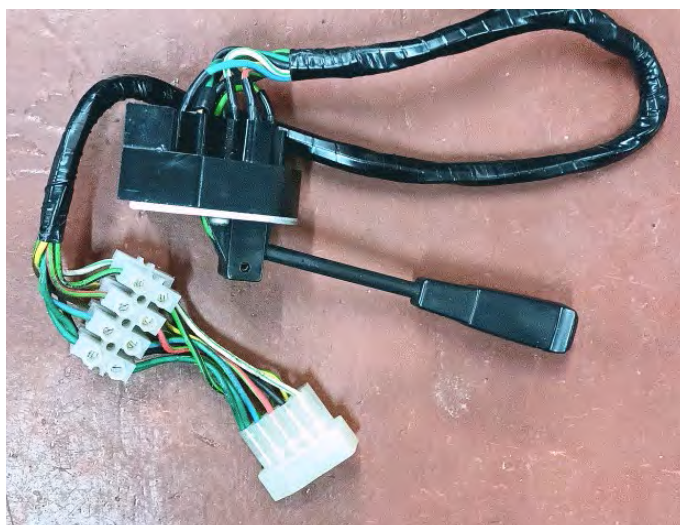
# STAG MODIFICATIONS

## INDICATOR/LIGHTS AND WIPER STALK SWAP

I'm sure most of us have at one time or another intended to indicate or flash the headlights on the Stag only to see the wipers sweep the screen causing confusion to oneself and other road users while you struggle to correct your mistake.

As we all know the respective stalks on our cars are on the opposite side of the column to most (all?) moderns which results in the problems above.

One of the jobs for scheduled for this winter was to replace the steering column bushes so as I would be dismantling it all, it seemed a logical time to do a swap so that the stalks were on the same side as both my moderns. Also a previous owner obviously had a problem with the wipers as instead of taking the column out to replace the wiring – which you have to do because the connector block will not feed through the conduit on the underside of the outer column, had cut off the stag connector block, fed the bare wires down the tube and then reconnected the wires at the bottom of the column using an ordinary connector block as well as the Triumph one, so this bodge really needed rectifying.



Replacing the bushes in the column was easy, given the information available in both previous magazines and the technical section of the Forum from previous owner's experiences. Relevant parts (LHD wash/wiper and Indicator/flash stalks) were obtained and I decided to connect up everything electrically and test first before putting it all back together. Connecting up the indicator stalk and moving the arm showed that everything was working as it should but the wash/wipe was a different matter. Intermittent was ok, as was slow speed but there was no fast speed and to cap it all, they wouldn't self park!

As there were the same number of wires in both the LHD & RHD wiring, there was obviously something

different. This was traced to the transposition of two wires in the connector blocks as shown. There were also differences in the colour coding of the wires with main wire colour differences as well. Begs the question why the differences? Does anyone know?

Anyway, it was decided to swap the wires around in the LHD block to match the right hand one, easily done with a fine screwdriver, and see what happened.

It was now a case of refitting the stalks to the column, routing the wiring through the channel and refitting the column and moving the indicator cancelling clip to the left side. However this presented another problem in that the clip caught both "triggers" on the switch when turning the steering wheel even when not indicating. This was rectified by judicious use of a hot air gun and a bit of gentle persuasion bending them slightly outwards!

Column cowlings back on, steering wheel replaced and a quick road test confirmed that all was working as it should.

I've now got to remember to forget I'm in the Stag when signalling/flashing or wiping! Happy Days.

**Maurice Poole (27384)**

# I HAVE A 200,000 MILE STAG!



**I**t's been a little while since I last wrote anything but during that time the brown Stag has been as delightful as ever. I'm really enjoying driving it and even the longest journey can feel quite short. And I never tire of that incredible sound!

Since I last wrote anything the brown Stag and I passed two significant milestones. The Stag passed the 200,000 mile mark (it's currently on a shade under 225,000) and I have now driven it personally for over 100,000 miles (I've driven it for 121,000) since I bought it in December 2007. I have mentioned before that I have very detailed history for the Stag dating back to 1984, including all of its MOT certificates (I actually know some of its history from the day it was sold new). I know for sure that the engine has not been rebored and is still using its original pistons, it had new piston rings and crankshaft bearings at 88,000 miles (I always wonder if it overheated?) and still runs beautifully with acceptable oil consumption.

In the 121,000 miles that I have driven the Stag, it has needed to be recovered twice. The first time turned out to be unnecessary but the second time could have been rather serious. The first time was when I stopped for fuel once. I went back to the Stag and tried to start it. Nothing, not even a click. After fiddling with wires going to the starter motor I soon convinced myself that my immobiliser had become faulty and the only option was to call my recovery service. The truck arrived within about 30 minutes and the Stag was duly loaded onto it. In another

30 minutes or so the Stag was tucked up in the garage at home. As I was actually on my way to work, I had to waken my 2.5PI Estate and use that. I had a look at the Stag that evening and it turned out to be a faulty starter solenoid, so it could have been push started after all! Ah well, we live and learn. The second recovery came on one weekend not long before I left North Wales. The Stag and I were enjoying pottering around on quiet lanes near Corwen when I became aware of a knocking noise from the rear every time we went over a bump. I thought that the exhaust hanger rubbers had broken initially but when I looked they were all intact. I could see nothing else wrong at all. We went a bit further, fortunately, as it turned out, travelling slowly when the knocking became worse. When I stopped this time the nearside rear wheel had acquired some quite impressive camber.

Now, it didn't look like that when I set off. Upon investigation it became obvious that the studs holding the hub to the trailing arm had pulled out of the trailing arm. Yikes! Time to phone the recovery company. Once again, the chap arrived within about 30 minutes and the Stag was soon loaded up and on the way home. Fortunately I had a spare pair of trailing arms with excellent thread in the hubs so I was able to fit these. It has been at the back of my mind ever since though! Other than that, the brown Stag has never once failed to start or to get me to my destination. Within a few months of owning it one of the head gaskets failed (four days to remove one head



– best not mentioned!) and that is the only time it has been immobilised apart from having some bodywork and a respray. I have changed the timing chains three times, fitted new valve guides recently as one had worn very oval, and carried out lots of routine maintenance.

The gearbox and overdrive remain untouched except for a new cross shaft and output oil seal but I did get worried about the amount of backlash in the diff. It remains original gears wise, but it has been overhauled with new bearings and seals, and has been reshimmed. I can't think of many more major things really, it has had overhauled rear hubs and a new propshaft as the rubber had deteriorated in the original. It had a new hood in 2012. When I bought the Stag in 2007 it had a fairly new hood fitted, but it quickly fell to pieces and the frame broke. Apart from electronic ignition and 15 inch wheels, the Stag is original, as it left the factory. I must say that I have enjoyed every minute of driving it and still do. It is still my daily driver and it is still clocking the miles (kilometres over here) up.

### Antifreeze? What's that?

Here in Western Australia we are, as I write, in the depths of a very hot Summer. We are having days in a row exceeding 40 degrees C, today the forecast is for 46 degrees where I live. The Stag copes with this fine and I have no qualms in driving it, but it gets a bit warm in there without air con. One thing that this means is lots of top down Stag motoring, probably more so in Winter though due to the intense sunshine. When I first came over to Australia I was surprised at how cold it gets overnight during the Winter, but I'm pleased to say that the days are usually fairly warm.

Where I live, just into the Wheatbelt, I think I am right in saying that below zero temperatures are not very common and due to this I don't use antifreeze in the Stag. Instead, I use a corrosion inhibitor which mixes with water as antifreeze does but results in a lower viscosity mixture with better cooling ability apparently. That's what I read anyway! So, last Winter, I became concerned when the overnight temperature became lower, and lower, and lower. Would it drop below freezing? Should I drain the coolant out and replace with antifreeze pronto? Well, it stayed at two or three degrees generally so I held my nerve but minor panic almost set in when it got to minus one overnight once. I'm happy to report that the Stag suffered no harm at all as it lives in a cosy garage overnight, but I think when I change the coolant this year antifreeze will be going in, just in case. (And indeed it has done).

### The Hood Window Zip

Last time I think I mentioned that the zip on the softop window had broken. I'm not sure why it did, it may have been an error on my part although I am fairly careful with it, or maybe just wear and tear. Anyway, after some research I found out (via the club) that some owners had fitted a new zip in situ using a sort of sail stitching awl. I read up about this and bought an awl which was not at



all expensive. In Perth I found an automotive trimming supplier and went in to buy a new zip. They supplied me with a suitable one to fit onto my hood.

I asked myself that infamous question, "how hard can it be?" Great question. I must say that the job itself was indeed fairly straightforward, I unpicked the stitches on the broken zip and worked out how the new one would fit. Ok, looks good. It was until I started stitching, I'm afraid that I did not get along too well with the stitching awl. The job was actually fairly easy but I think that upholstery work is really just not my thing. Nevertheless, with some help, the zip was successfully fitted and has worked fine so far. I was able to fit two zip 'handles' this time so I now have one at each end. I was unable to get the screen to be wrinkle free as it was so I think an automotive upholsterer will be doing the job next time!



### New Tyres

The brown stag needed a set of new tyres recently. The tyres which were on it were a 'mid range' make which the tyre depot back in North Wales had in stock last time I went to buy some. I could have ordered some more expensive ones but after talking to the chap in charge at the tyre depot (who I had used many times and trusted) I decided to go with the mid range. Straight away I was pleased with them and must say that I cannot criticize the tyres, grip was good in both wet and dry and they gave a lovely comfortable ride. However, just at the right time, I spotted a very good special offer on a more expensive make of tyre which I had been thinking of trying for some time. I phoned the local tyre depot in question and ordered four in.

Now, this may just be one of my quirks but I do not like anyone jacking my Stag up so I took the wheels over to the depot in the back of my ute. The tyres were fitted and balanced without any fuss and I duly refitted them to the Stag. I was keen to go for a test drive so I set off. Wow! What a difference! Immediately the Stag felt more stable on the road and once again it corners superbly, whilst still being comfortable. I imagine that I had just become used to the previous tyres, though they were very good, but the Stag once again handles as it used to on similar tyres.

### The Blue Stag

The blue Stag I have, which is in very original condition generally, still enjoys occasional use. In fact, it had a spell as my daily driver recently, see the story below. I'm still planning the restoration of it which I hope to start before too long. I don't think that there are any huge issues with the bodywork (I bet there will be when I strip it!) but I do know that it will need rear wheel arches. I will almost certainly use the SOCTFL half wings for these. The engine has covered 68,000 miles and runs very sweetly, the transmission is good too. The interior is pretty much

immaculate but it will need seat foams and the original carpets now look scruffy, so I will have to replace those. By the way, I am 95% certain that the tyre on the spare wheel is the 1976 original!

One thing that I can't decide is how much of the original paint to replace. Outside is not a problem as it has been resprayed at some point, but around the door apertures, for example, is still original paint in good condition as is the engine bay. The boot floor and spare wheel area has excellent original paint so I may well leave this alone, but I think to achieve what I have in mind the other areas will need to be repainted. Something which needs more thought on my part. I'm quite excited to get started on it, but when will that be? Watch this space!

### The Kangaroo

Since I wrote about the blue Stag above, it has enjoyed another spell as my daily driver. This was decided not by me, but by a kangaroo. I live in a rural area and often have to drive through Julimar Forest. I generally try to avoid driving the Stag through the forest after 4.30 - 5pm ish as this is when the kangaroos become active. For anyone who may not know, some of the male kangaroos can get quite big, solid and chunky and can weigh about 54kgs apparently. They haven't yet developed road sense and just hop out across roads, following their path, as they have done for thousands of years. Straight in front of any oncoming vehicle in modern times.

One evening I had been delayed and found myself having to drive home, through the forest, in the dark. I could have taken a detour to avoid it, but this would add another 20 minutes or so to my journey. I thought that I'd go through the forest. This turned out to be a mistake... I was driving at about 30 mph through a section of dense bushland as I hoped to spot any roos coming. Unfortunately, before I even knew it, I had a split second sight of a roo's head above the front left corner of the car, there was a huge bang and an awful sound of shattering glass. Of course I stopped immediately. I found the lefthand headlight out and glass on the road. The damage did not look too bad in the dark (no streetlights). I was probably more concerned that the roo might be lying injured.

I found him by the rear of the Stag, a huge male Western Grey. And I mean huge. The poor thing appeared to be dead. Now, kangaroos can be dangerous if they suddenly regain consciousness in this kind of situation, so I was very cautious. As far as I could see, there was no sign of life, or injury as it happens. As it turned out, I think that the roo was just stunned or knocked unconscious as driving past early the next day (in my farm ute) he had gone, so I hope he was ok after all. I completed my journey thinking that a new headlight etc would be in order along with maybe repairs to the odd minor dent. How wrong I was! When I got the Stag in the light the damage became very clear. It was in a mess. The wing was mangled, door mirror missing, huge dent in the door and a dent in the front top panel. And the bonnet had moved towards the windscreen. Hmm, just a little worse than expected.



My first thoughts were to repair the car myself, but on reflection I would not have had the time to complete the job in any kind of reasonable timescale. So, I turned to the Triumph specialist in Perth that I use. It turns out that they did not do major bodywork repairs, but they put me in touch with the bodyshop that they use. I made an appointment to trailer the Stag down to be looked at. I had a very positive experience when the owner of the bodyshop went round the Stag with me, but I have to say I was fairly convinced that my insurer would write the Stag off. The owner of the bodyshop knew the Stag very well and was able to make a really knowledgeable assessment of my Stag and explain to me what he thought would be required.

So, with fingers crossed, the estimate was submitted to the insurance company. After waiting for a while without too much hope I had a call to say that the estimate had been accepted by my insurers. Great news! As the front wing would be being replaced, I also asked the bodyshop if they would replace the outer sill on that side, paid for by me. The sills on the Stag were fitted in 1990 and I know that the nearside one was becoming a little suspect in some areas. I thought I'd need to get one sent from the UK but the specialist in Perth managed to source a new original Stanpart panel for me. Rust repairs to Stags are a

pretty rare thing over here it seems. The bodyshop were busy so I had to wait a couple of months or so before the Stag could be booked in but when the time came I hired a car transporter trailer and took it down to Perth, about 1 ¼ hour's drive from where I live.

During the time the brown Stag was away, the blue Stag stepped up to provide really enjoyable transport every day, as I mentioned above. The call came to say that the brown Stag was ready and I could go to collect it. I hired the car transporter trailer once again and set off. I found the Stag parked at the front of the bodyshop and the sight that greeted me was astonishing. I had no idea that it was going to look this good, way better than I expected. It looks fabulous, panel gaps are great, the colour match is spot on and it was positively gleaming. Wow! I was so pleased. I think it was due for a service and then I immediately put it straight into daily use. Marvellous! It's been great ever since. I drove it a few days ago on a day when it was a full 45 degrees C and the temperature needle did not pass the vertical position, even after a high speed run. The breeze coming in through the open window was pretty warm though!

**Brian Millington (25746)**





**T**he following article is intended to keep club member abreast with the work of SOCTFL and further updates will follow in the future. We hope you find them both informative and of interest.

SOCTFL have received the first air intake grill following the polishing of the tooling. Although at first glance the item looks good at closer inspection there are still some small imperfections that are cause for concern. SOCTFL always strive to ensure that parts bearing its logo are the highest quality possible.

To that end Paul Smith, Russell Lewis, Peter Howells and Noel Sargent met up to discuss the situation. It was agreed that the manufacturer would be contacted to see if they were able to undertake further polishing of the tooling. If this proved not to be possible then Julian, who had seen the part prior to the meeting, suggested that a company in the black country be approached. This situation does mean of course that there will be a delay in production.

Russell has also been informed that the delivery of the flocked window channel will be delayed due to the problems in the Red Sea and Suez Canal shipping routes. It seems that the vessel transporting the shipment has been ordered to take the longer route around the Cape of Good Hope. This is of course a problem affecting many deliveries for numerous industries and organisations.

Thanks a bunch Houtis!

Paul Smith recently met up with the person who is helping Roger to dispose of his stock of Stag parts. Abinger Hammer, Roger's company is winding down. Paul's interest was centered on head gaskets and the cylinder heads. He has acquired a significant number of standard thickness head gaskets which will become available in due course.

The engineering company is now refreshing their quote for matching the heads and have also been asked to quote for machine and assembly to provide two options moving forward. There is still much work to do concerning the potential completion of this project.

Russell has obtained original examples of both inner and outer boot lid skins as patterns for the manufacturer to use in designing the tooling for this part. Wayne Woolford will be taking them to the manufacturer shortly. Another major step forward for this project.

Paul recently bought some inner sills that proved to be of poor quality. His feedback reached the ears of the manufacturer who are keen to improve their product. As a result Pul is going to see them with a copy of his Stanpart inners so they can take some measurements and thereby improve the quality of their inners. It appears that they make other Stag panels so this exercise may result in collaboration with view to ensuring that their parts are produced to original specifications.

*Noel Sargent & Roger Kennedy*

## INSURANCE OFFICER REQUIRED

### THE ROLE OF THE INSURANCE OFFICER

**W**e all have those annual insurance renewals that come up whether that be home insurance, car insurance or for those who have time, travel insurance. They seem to come round quickly too. Well, this is the same for your club. Aaron Payne was kindly our Insurance Officer but has had to resign due to personal reasons and is no longer a member of the club. This now leaves your club at risk unless someone volunteers to come forward to help.

Out of you 3,600 readers of this magazine, surely there must be one of you who could assist the club and just add one more annual insurance renewal to your tasks being the club insurance. The good news is that for 2024 this has already been completed so there is very little to do. Its more of the case that we need someone in the position to ensure the club is protected and to assist with any queries.

There is also the pleasurable side of the role working alongside our club scheme RH Specialists which I can assure you works very well as they are and have always been keen to look after our members. The role would simply entail monitoring an email inbox and co-ordinating responses.

Ideally you would have an insurance background and to have good communication skills, other than that it is a very light task. If you feel that you can make the Club a better one for its members and joining a decent bunch of chaps / chapesses who have made the Club what it is today then please email [insurance@stag.org.uk](mailto:insurance@stag.org.uk)



# SOCTFL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

HERITAGE MOTOR CENTRE, GAYDON, WARWICK CV35 8BJ  
27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024 – 10.00AM FOR 10.30AM START

We are inviting you to attend the 2024 SOCTFL AGM, and if you cannot attend you have the option to appoint a voting Proxy as required by Company Law.

This is the same day as the Co-ordinators meeting

Do come along to this enjoyable event, you will be most welcome. Enjoy Coffee and Biscuits on arrival  
**Stag Owners Club Tooling Fund Limited Proxy Voting for the AGM 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

If you would like to exercise your right to appoint a proxy please photocopy or cut out and complete the form and send it to arrive by Friday 19th April 2024 to:

Paul Smith (SOCTFL Chairman), Oakfield House, Maidensgrove, Henley on Thames, RG9 6EX

You must provide your name(s), address and SOC Membership Number(s).

## Stag Owners Club Tooling Fund Limited

I/we (name) \_\_\_\_\_

(membership no.) \_\_\_\_\_

and (name) \_\_\_\_\_

(membership no.) \_\_\_\_\_

of (address) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

appoint the Chairman of the Meeting or

\_\_\_\_\_

as my/our proxy to vote in my/our name[s] and on my/our behalf at the annual general meeting of the company to be held on Saturday 27th April 2024 and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

and \_\_\_\_\_

Date (day/month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

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# SOMERSET & DORSET TAKE THE HIGH ROAD



**F**or several years we had talked about driving the North Coast 500 and when we heard the 2023 ESM was in Scotland, we thought this is an opportunity we cannot miss to accomplish this task.

After initial enthusiasm, the numbers interested gradually fell as the distances from Somerset & Dorset and the days away were calculated until four couples, Ken & Liz, Mark & Jane, Graham & Mary and Garry & Janet were left to plan routes and book hotels.

We wanted to include visits to places en-route so eventually decided to take fourteen days for the complete journey. When the Coronation was announced Ken & Liz decided to leave a day early so that they could watch the occasion at a suitable hotel in Scotland, which was in Lybster. They also decided to take their daily runner to accommodate Liz's wardrobe.

## Wednesday May 3rd

So, three Stags met at Gloucester services at 8:00am on Wednesday May 3rd, 2023.



*Gloucester Services*

Jane & Mark led us on a non-motorway route until past the dreaded M5/M6 junction and smart motorway sections, eventually stopping at Much Wenlock for a coffee and cake break and a leg stretch. The next stop was the Lancaster Holiday Inn for the night. During the run, Mark & Jane's Stag had not been running very well, losing power and requiring stops to clean the spark plugs and top up with oil and on arrival at the hotel checks showed there was again significant oil loss, but no leaks, more head scratching overnight. 260 miles today.

## Thursday May 4th

In the morning, Mark & Jane decided to nurse their Stag home and swap it for their daily runner and join us the next evening at our stop in Aviemore, which would be just over 700 additional miles for them.

Now, two Stags set off for Falkirk to meet up with Steph Philips, organiser of the ESM, who had very kindly offered to meet us at The Kelpies to pick up our ESM tickets and goody bags. All went to plan and we met Steph and Andy at The Kelpies, had a great chat, then wandered round the site before moving on to The Falkirk Wheel, just in time for the last barge trip of the day on the wheel. Then a short drive to the Holiday Inn in Stirling. 183 miles today.



*The Kelpies*



*Falkirk Wheel*

## Friday May 5th

A very scenic drive today along the military roads through the Cairngorms with a visit to Balmoral and Ballater and eventually the Premier Inn Aviemore for the night, where Mark & Jane were already there waiting for us. 147 miles for the two Stags today.



*Ballater*

**Saturday May 6th – Coronation Day**

Two Stags and a daily runner started with a short detour to see the dolphins at Chanony point and then visited the cathedral at Fortrose, where Mary, Graham & Jane watched the coronation on a mobile phone. On our route along the East coast we took time for a look around Dunrobin Castle and to watch the Falconry display. Our stop for the night was at the Portland Hotel, Lybster where we met up with Ken & Liz. 133 miles today.



*Dunrobin Castle*

**Sunday May 7th**

Now we have our full complement of travellers, eight people, four cars, 2 Stags and 2 daily runners, complete with NC500 car plaques I had previously made.



*Our Vehicles*

We continued our drive North to John o' Groats for the required photo shoot with the signpost.



*John o' Groats*

Next, on to the most North Easterly point at Duncansby Head. Over the last couple of days, Garry's Stag had been starting to show temperature fluctuations, becoming hotter at each cycle and checks on coolant, fan, electric water pump, etc. were all OK. The only explanation was thermostat, so we continued to our planned stop at the Castle of Mey, let the radiator cool down and checked the thermostat.



*"Where did that come from???"*

Examination showed the thermostat had some type of silicone sealant wrapped around it which stopped the stat opening until the temperature and pressure were sufficient to force it open, allowing a short burst of coolant circulation before the stat shut again, hence the temperature fluctuations. Thermostat out, top up with water and on we go, all behaved normally after, except running a little cooler.

Our next stop was the at most Northerly point at Dunnet Head, which was very blustery and misty, so quick hop out of the cars, photo and back on the road to the Ben Loyal Hotel at Tongue. 102 miles today.



*Dinner at The Ben Loyal Hotel, Tongue*



*Rubha Nan Sasan, Cove Battery, Arctic Convoy Memorial*

### Wednesday May 10th

On the way to the Bealach Na Ba Pass, we were told to drive to Glendocherty viewpoint which was definitely worth the detour as we had superb views back down the valley to Loch Maree and Loch Ewe.



*Glendocherty viewpoint*



*Bealach na Ba Viewpoint*

### Monday May 8th

We drove to Chocolate Mountain at Balnakeil Craft Village (disappointing) and then on to Smoo Caves (very interesting) for a tour. Now starting down the West Coast we drove over Kylesku Bridge

(better to view from a distance) and after Unapool headed west towards Stoer and Lochinver. Here we took the "Wee Mad Road" to Drumrunie, finishing the day at the Royal Hotel, Ullapool. 118 miles today.



*Video: Wee Mad Road*

### Tuesday May 9th

Breakfast included porridge as usual, but today with the offer of a dram of whisky to put on it. Ken & Liz stayed to look around Ullapool to reminisce of a visit many years ago. The rest of us went to Corrieshalloch Gorge and the Falls of Measach where we had a very pleasant walk. When Ken and Liz caught up with us, we continued to Inverewe Gardens, a lovely National Trust Garden on the coast.

After the gardens, Mark & Jane and Garry & Janet drove beside Loch Ewe to the end of the peninsula and to Rubha Nan Sasan, Cove Battery, Arctic Convoy Memorial which is to the 3000 men who died on the Arctic convoys near the Cove Battery. Tonight we stayed at Hotel Gairloch and outside the hotel before dinner we heard the first bagpipes on our trip. 71 miles today.



After several photos we returned to our original route to the pass. At Applecross the weather had deteriorated and as we climbed the Bealach na Ba pass we continued further into the mist and rain.



However, the weather improved as we made our way to our next hotel at Dornie which was just a short walk from Eilean Donan Castle. 108 miles today.

**Thursday May 11th**

As we had two nights at Dornie, we decided to spend today on the Isle of Skye. Janet had discovered that close by was the last manually operated turntable car ferry in the world still crossing the shortest route (Glenelg to Kylerhea) to the Isle, so we used the ferry instead of the bridge.



I remembered using a similar ferry somewhere in Scotland way back in the 1980s. Digging out old photos when I returned home, it was in 1983 in a VW Scirocco and it was the same ferry boat, MV Glenachulish, on the same route.



The roads to and from the ferry were also very enjoyable, Graham scraping his exhaust a couple of times on some of the apexes. On the Isle of Skye we had lunch at Portree then drove to the Old Man of Storr. Walking to the top I discovered a fashion shoot in progress.

We returned to Dornie using the Kyle of Lochalsh bridge this time. After dinner we walked around Eilean Donan Castle. 111 miles today.



**Friday May 12th**

We drove to a viewpoint that Jane & Mark had found overlooking Eilean Donan Castle before making our way to Invermoriston to see “The Old Bridge”, one of nearly a thousand built by Thomas Telford. On to Fort Augustus and the Caladonian Canal Visitor centre for lunch, very busy and full of tourists.

Ken had told us about The Commando Memorial near Spean Bridge so we stopped for a while. It is in a stunning position overlooking the WWII training areas, surrounded by mountains still with snow on their peaks. On to our hotel at Blair Atholl. 127 miles today.



*The Commando Memorial*

**Monday May 15th**

We walked to Barter Books (of "Keep Calm & Carry On" fame) which had a very nice Stag parked outside.



*Barter Books*

Another short walk took us to Alnwick gardens, which has a very impressive Grand Cascade amongst several other interesting garden areas.



*Alnwick gardens*

Next door is Alnwick Castle, as featured in Downton and Harry Potter, etc. In the afternoon we visited The Lady of The North. Our next hotel was just outside Ripon and we had booked a restaurant in the city so we could visit the Cathedral first, definitely well worth a visit. 100 miles travelled today.

**Tuesday May 16th**

As we were passing Harrogate, we took the opportunity to visit RHS Harlow Carr and then continued to our hotel at Kirby Muxloe. 145 miles today.

**Wednesday May 17th**

Our last day on the trip. We did call into Dyrham Park to break the journey, say good bye to Graham & Mary and continue home. 152 miles today.

A most enjoyable couple of weeks driving nearly 2000 miles in a Stag with great company and some fantastic scenery and weather on the West coast of Scotland.

**Saturday May 13th**

This morning we said goodbye to Mark & Jane as they were going to visit friends. The rest of us drove to Glamis Castle to join with the ESM group and continue with the ESM activities over the weekend. 98 Miles today.



*ESM Dinner*

**Sunday May 14th**

After the afternoon tea at Prestonfield House, Ken & Liz now left us to visit the Lake District whilst Graham & Mary and Garry & Janet said a fond farewell to Scotland and drove to Alnwick for the night, detouring to see Lindisfarne, Bamburgh Castle and Seahouses on the way. 147 miles today.



*The Intrepid Eight*

After our little trip, it makes you appreciate the number of diverse places we have in the UK as we had great difficulty trying to decide what to see on our journey, guess it means we have to do it again some time.

Oh, someone just said "what about Northern Ireland next year?"

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*NEW Silver Grey Hood with double zips*

*Water Pumps & accessories - designed by Steve Hill and supplied by Stag Hood with additional upgrades.*



*"I would recommend anybody who has a problem with their Stag roof to go and see Craig" Su, London*

**Email with any specific requests**  
[info@staghoodfactory.co.uk](mailto:info@staghoodfactory.co.uk)

# DRIVE YOUR TRIUMPH DAY 2024



**D**rive Your Triumph Day, held in honour of Sir John Black, fell on a mild Sunday in February, and this created a very good excuse to get the car out for a pleasant drive through the rolling hills of North Oxfordshire heading for the National Motor Museum at Gaydon.

30 or so other owners of Stags (along with a smattering of other Triumphs) also felt the urge to "Drive It", so a good collection of cars lined up outside the museum with Lesley Phillips duly taking a photo of each car as it arrived to log the participants.

Oxford was reasonably well represented, as you might expect with it being only in the next county. Steve, Peter, Richard and Simon (and son) made the journey with no car issues reported!

Deputy Richard then joined Mrs W and I for breakfast at the excellent, car themed Gilks' Garage Café in nearby Kineton before we parted company for the picturesque return journey through some lovely Cotswold countryside.

Just north of Hook Norton we were surprised by a ford through the River Stour known as Traitor's Ford. Despite the recent rains it was only about 20cm deep, so the Stag had to go through! Fortunately, there was a small group of "ford spotters" loitering at the spot, so some good photos were taken.

After all this excitement, we couldn't help stopping at the Hook Norton Brewery on the way home for some refreshments to get us through the afternoon's Six Nations rugby!

*Jason Williams*

## 5 FACTS ABOUT SIR JOHN BLACK

- His first wife Daisy was the daughter of the founder of the Hillman Motor company, where he was to become joint managing director.
- He joined Standard Motor company and oversaw the purchase of Triumph to form Standard Triumph in 1944.
- He was knighted during the war for his role in developing aircraft engines being chairman of the Joint Aero Engine Committee.
- His second marriage was to Alicia, daughter of the Bishop of Persia!
- He was forced to resign in 1954, having been involved in a car accident related to work which apparently affected his judgment thereafter.





## A MESSAGE FROM THE DRIVE YOUR TRIUMPH DAY ORGANISERS

**T**hank you to everyone who participated in Drive Your Triumph Day 2024. It's amazing to see Triumphs and Standards being driven and celebrated all over the world, all on the same day.

Once again it's great to see several group club drives around the world, from Australia to South Africa, Oklahoma to Canada, US and the UK, which is fantastic. Thank you to those who planned and hosted those drives.

I've posted the photos to Facebook - Drive Your Triumph Day. The downside is you can't see the file name which has all the data about the owner, car and location: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090853480071>

In addition the photos are also posted on the Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club website where you can see the file name which includes the owners name, model and year of car, city, state and country. <https://triumphtravelers.org/DYTD/photos.php>

Please be patient as some photos don't load very fast. Click on the link above. On the landing page click on the

image of Sir John Black and you'll see albums for both 2024 & 2023 DYTD photos.

So get your favourite beverage, sit back and click through the photos from all over the world. Next year DYTD 2025, February 10th, is on a Sunday. Mark it on your calendar now.

**Rye Livingston**

*Activities Chairman, Triumph Travelers Sports Car Club  
1960 Triumph TR3A [DriveYourTriumphDay@gmail.com](mailto:DriveYourTriumphDay@gmail.com)*



**Thought for the Month  
Rupert Klaiber**

"Never underestimate the power of stupid people in large groups"

*George Carlin*

# OUT & ABOUT

## E A S T E R N

Regional Co-ordinator:

Roger Kennedy [rogkennedy44@aol.com](mailto:rogkennedy44@aol.com)

Mobile: 07816 271237

### NORFOLK

**N**orfolk Area Team: Email: [norfolk@stag.org.uk](mailto:norfolk@stag.org.uk) which goes to Co-ordinator & Deputies ...

- Kevin Mellor (Co-ordinator) 07957 790764
- Chris Liles (Deputy) 07885 253525
- Peter & Jean O'Neill (Deputies) 07917 431285.
- Ray Prescott (Photos Archivist) send photos via WhatsApp.

First Tuesday each month - Noggin 'n' Natter 8pm+ Village Inn, School Lane, Little Melton, NR9 3AD just outside western edge of Norwich Southern Bypass. Browse <https://www.stonehouserestaurants.co.uk/> then put NR9 into search box and visit local website for menus etc. Park behind pub, use rear entrance & our room is first on right through the doors. We're a sociable bunch of mainly couples so please join us 6.30pm onwards to sample very good value food pre-meeting (no need to book).

**Valentine's Drive proved to be more of a Valentine's Swim!** Weather warnings were for heavy rain & flooding ... surely no-one will risk their Stag? Well, when breakfasting at the (impressive) Black Barn Farm Shop <https://blackbarnfarm.co.uk/> at Salhouse there were 9 Euro-boxes but one Stag. Dave & Jan Coles were bemused to be the only Stag on an SOC drive ... we all hung our heads in shame. With the grass car park waterlogged even here, we aborted the idea of strolling around snowdrops at Walsingham. Instead, Barry & Su kindly stepped up & invited us all back to theirs at Knapton where you would think they had planned to be besieged by SOC members! Coffee/tea flowed & cake/biscuits kept appearing until we decided it was time to head for our meal at the Running Horse at Fakenham.

That cross-country trip included going under an old railway bridge where the water was axle-deep on a Stag. That did not deter Dave & Jan though & their Stag just took it in her stride – impressive! With flooded country lanes etc. we were all baffled how their white Stag still looked clean (per photo) at the pub! Whilst they were the heroes of the day, we also thanked Kevin, Jan, Peter & Jean (also Barry & Su of course) for organising what proved to be a brilliantly sociable day for 20 people & 3 four-legged friends. We all exhibited the Bulldog Spirit by ignoring the vagaries of the British weather & still having fun.



March Noggin 'n' Natter was at the Copper Beech at Longwater, whilst the Village Inn is being refurbished & 32 of us were suitably impressed by the pub, food, drink & hospitality. Barry & Su supplied the only Stag in the car park. We signed Get Well cards for Nancy Weaver-Pope & Sue Skinner whom we found were both hospitalised but slowly on the mend. We reviewed past events since February's N&N including the Games Day plus Valentines Drive as reported in this or our previous monthly report. Future events continued to emerge including Tenpin Bowling & arranging a potentially large, multi-Triumph Club meeting at Phil Newton's home near Ipswich to celebrate Harry Webster – more details as they emerge. We also



hope to arrange joint events with our neighbours in SOC Suffolk & N.Essex.

Earlier today Chris, Alan & Doreen had presented our £250 cheque to a highly grateful Parkinson's UK (Norwich & District). Tonight, Chris read out their beautifully worded thank-you card explaining how our donation will help to fund a trip in April to Newmarket Stud for Parkinson's sufferers & carers. Interestingly, they estimate that in Norfolk alone there are around 2,500 people with the condition & that the disease has over 40 symptoms.

The remaining £250 charity donation raised at our Norfolk Party will soon be presented by Kevin to our local Prostate Cancer Support Group.

## NORFOLK AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/norfolk-area-members-home-page/>

*Kevin Mellor*

*Mobile: 07957 790764 Email: [norfolk@stag.org.uk](mailto:norfolk@stag.org.uk)*

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

**W**ith the arrival of April, we'll hopefully be seeing a long a very wet winter in our rear view mirrors and looking forward to a long warm and sunny summer, with lots of opportunity to get out in our Stags. That's optimism for you.

Our February gathering was a visit to Chippenham Park to see the gardens and the winter bulbs and shrubs. We were fortunate to have a day when the sun was shining and the rain had taken a temporary holiday, A small turnout of 3 Stags and a Scimitar, parking was surprisingly good and not the mud I feared, 8 of us gathered in the Potting Shed Cafe for coffee before our amble round the gardens. The Snowdrops, for which the gardens are



renowned, had passed their best, but the hellebores were magnificent with the daffodils beginning to bloom. We moved on from Chippenham Park to La Hogue Farm Cafe for lunch, where 2 more members were waiting. The house at Chippenham Park was originally built by Admiral Russel, who was the victor over the French fleet at the 1692 battle

of La Hogue. In keeping with this winter there was a light rain shower over lunch.

Details of future events will be advised by email, I need to know your email contact details if you want to be kept updated, so if you've not received any emails from me then I don't have your contact details. The future events schedule below cannot include all events and last minute changes, they are advised by email, there is also a WhatsApp Group, Cambridgeshire Stag Members, if you would like to be included send me a message and I'll link you to it. Keep driving and enjoying your Stags.

Rod

## DIARY DATES

Future Events: Please contact Chris Grove or Ken Woods for more details.

N&Ns – Our monthly gathering, when members gather for drink and chat, many also enjoy a meal. It's a chance to meet fellow Stag owners and their partners, to talk over Stag problems, if any any, and plan future events. Over the winter the N&Ns will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month, check your emails for date and venue or contact me if I don't have your email address.

- ✔ Classics on The Green at Barrington should resume from April, with the first meet on Friday April 6th, try to arrive well before 18:00 if you want a space on the Green. Postcode: CB22 7RZ.
- ✔ Sunday 21st April Drive-It Day – Details will b advised by email.
- ✔ Sunday, 14th July – Kimbolton Country Fayre & Classic Car Show – The date for this clashes with Stag National Day, so there will be no pre-booked Stag Area. If you wish to attend please book direct. The Early Bird saver tickets are now available online, with no booking fees. Click on [www.kimboltoncountryfayre.org/tickets](http://www.kimboltoncountryfayre.org/tickets) Individual exhibitors please email Stacey at [staceyloczy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:staceyloczy@hotmail.co.uk) for your place allocation and booking code before ordering your Early Bird saver tickets.

*Rod Kennedy*

*Tel : 07501 448516*

*Email: [cambridgeshire@stag.org.uk](mailto:cambridgeshire@stag.org.uk)*

## ESSEX

**F**ebbruary was our traditional Frostbite Run and the weather was much kinder to us that expected. 16 cars on the run and we all arrived at the venue at the same time albeit some of us took a different route. Lunch was excellent and so was the company. Laindon Hills Golf club do an excellent carvery.

March club night was quiet as usual. Welcome to Martin who joined us and hope to see you again and good luck with the restoration, looking good so far.

This month is a busy one with club night being our



The Essex Frostbite Run

- ✔ August 23rd – 26th – Long Weekend away
- ✔ September 1st – Hyde Hall Car Show
- ✔ September 5th – Club night, Old Windmill
- ✔ September TBA - Night Run
- ✔ October 3rd – Club night, Old Windmill
- ✔ November 7th – Club night, Old Windmill
- ✔ December 5th – Club night
- ✔ December TBA - Christmas meal, raffle and awards

Andrew Smith

Tel: 01702 511234

Email: yellowstagv8@gmail.com

## BEDFORDSHIRE

### F ebruary Natter and Noggin

The return to the Red Lion was a success with the new manager welcoming us and happy for us to use the small room which is normally used by the restaurant. The assistant manager also expressed a wish to have a drive in a Stag which I am sure we can oblige in the summer months. The large holes on entering the car park have been repaired so a lot safer.

### Drive it Day

I have had requests to organise some Sunday run outs. Therefore, meet for Drive it Day at Kempston Interchange Retail Park Ampthill Road, MK42 7AZ near to Macdonalds for 10:00 am. Run out into Northampton to the Industry and Supply Café at the Royal Ordnance Depot Weedon Building 14 The Depot NN7 4PS. The café is in a building dating back to 1802 which supplied armaments for the Napoleonic Wars. The large premises are bursting with Artwork and Merchandise and armchairs to sit and relax with a coffee and cake. This will give some members in Northampton a chance to meet up with us.

### Up and Coming events

April sees the start of the mid-week classic car meets. These are friendly small events with a mixture of cars to have some interesting discussions with owners. I will be attending the Tuesday meet at Oakley and the Wednesday meet at Greenfield (subject to it not tipping down with rain) Details of these events are in the diary dates below.

SOCTFL AGM and CO ORDINATORS meeting Gaydon

Don't forget you are welcome to attend the SOCTFL AGM at Gaydon on the Saturday 27th April. A lot has been going on in the background this past year so why not come and find out all about SOCTFL and what we do. Also, it is hoped to have on display the first Air Intake Grill Moulded and Chrome Plated. It also gives you an excuse to visit and tour the museum. If you wish to stay for the coordinators meeting in the afternoon please let me know so I can get you registered

### Not Stag Related, (sort of)

I thought I would share why I will not be able to attend a lot of the shows that as an area we put on a stand for this year. I have a share in a canal boat See picture. Normally you get 4 weeks use dates selected by rotation at the beginning of the year BUT we have been lucky in

Quiz night kindly being organised by Marilyn. Thank you Marilyn.

Also so this month we have Drive it Day kindly organised by Bob and hope weather is kinder to you this year. You will have received an email by now for names and numbers.

Nothing arranged for May as yet but being worked on I'm still working on the Summer BBQ and hope to have some news soon or putting the request out to members if anyone is interested in hosting the event.

There have quite a few of us who have managed to book in for Brands Hatch for National Day. Terrible process but got there in the end.

The area Long Weekend is set and we are off to Christchurch (Not New Zealand). A long way off now but the earlier you book, the cheaper the hotel will be.

I can confirm that I have accepted the invitation for the Hyde Hall classic car show to take place later than last year on the 1st September.

As I have mentioned before, with area members clearly being involved in events this has proved to be a great success and with my full support. Thank you.

If you wish to be added to the email circulation list then please drop me an email and if you wish to be removed from the email circulation, then let me know and I will remove you.

If you have not been a long to a club night before, we meet on the first Thursday of each month from 7.30pm at the Old Windmill in South Hanningfield, post code CM3 8HT. We have the back room booked, so just look out for our club board.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ April 4th – Quiz Night, Old Windmill
- ✔ April 21st – Drive it Day
- ✔ May 2nd – Club night, Old Windmill
- ✔ June 6th – Club night, Old Windmill
- ✔ June TBA - Summer BBQ
- ✔ July 4th – Club night, Old Windmill
- ✔ July 14th – National Day Brands Hatch
- ✔ August 1st – Club night, Old Windmill





- ✔ June 9th Sunday Luton Festival of Transport
- ✔ June 11th Tuesday Oakley sports and social club car meet (prov)
- ✔ June 19th Wednesday at the Compasses 44 high street Greenfield MK45 5DD 6pm onwards
- ✔ June 20th Natter and Noggin RED LION Elstow MK42 9XP

#### BEDFORDSHIRE AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/bedfordshire-landing-page/>

*Roger Kennedy*

*Mobile: 07816 271237 rogkennedy44@aol.com*

## HERTFORDSHIRE & N. LONDON

that some owners cannot use their allocated weeks and therefore as both Mo and I are retired we put ourselves forward to use these weeks and we have been successful in getting these extra weeks which fall on dates when we would as an area be putting on an area stand. Therefore, if any of you wish to attend these shows and have a club area stand please contact me so I can give you registration details and the loan of club show stand equipment.

#### Future Natter and Noggins

All Natter and Noggins will return to the Red Lion Elstow MK42 9XP 7:30pm onwards.

#### What's App group.

Howard started the conversation with the report he had put his Stag Registration into Google and found pictures of his Stag going to the New Years day meet at Stony Stratford. This set off a few posts of Stag pictures of members cars from Google search. But Paul Taylor put his Registration in (CBD) and only got adverts for CBD oils.

#### Bedfordshire Web Page

<https://www.stag.org.uk/bedfordshire-landing-page/>  
Russell would love to have pictures of your cars and some information about the cars. Or any reports on trips to shows and events.

#### DIARY DATES

- ✔ April 9th Tuesday Oakley sports and social club car meet (prov) 5:30pm onwards
- ✔ April 17th Wednesday at the Compasses 44 high street Greenfield MK45 5DD 6pm onwards
- ✔ April 18th Natter and Noggin RED LION Elstow MK42 9XP
- ✔ April 21st Drive it Day Coffee and Cake run Building 14 The Depot Weedon NN7 4PS
- ✔ April 27th SATURDAY SOCTFL AGM Gaydon Motor Museum
- ✔ May 14th Tuesday Oakley sports and social club car meet (prov) 5:30pm onwards
- ✔ May 15th Wednesday at the Compasses 44 high street Greenfield MK45 5DD 6pm onwards
- ✔ May 16th Natter and Noggin RED LION Elstow MK42 9XP
- ✔ May 19th Sunday Chiltern Hills Rally Weedon Park Aylesbury HP22 4NN

Only four Hertfordshire and North London area members turned up for our March meeting. Many of our number were away, whilst some were suffering with the myriad of viruses doing the rounds at this time of year. Nevertheless, we had an enjoyable evening, discussing social events that local members would like us to organise. Indeed, Pete and I have secured some support for our efforts on events. Watch this space.

You will see below our next two monthly meets. I will also include a placeholder for Drive It Day, because the four of us agreed that it would be lovely to do something together on that date. If you would like to join us, let me or Pete know.

I consider ours to be a thriving area centre. On some occasions, we might not get a good turnout for our meets, but we usually do well. Our local members are friends, and we manage to keep in contact between monthly meets.

We meet on the first Thursday of every month at The Golden Eagle in Ashley Green, a village between Chesham and Berkhamsted. Why not join us! The pub offers an unusual menu, but the food is excellent and Chris, the landlord, is something of a foodie. We are only about 15 or 20 minutes west of the junction of the M25 and the A41. A warm welcome is assured.

#### DIARY DATES

- ✔ Thursday 4th April – H&NL monthly meet around 7pm at The Golden Eagle, Ashley Green, HP5 3PW.
- ✔ Sunday 21st April – Drive It Day. At time of writing, we are considering arranging something. Please email or call Paul or Pete for details.
- ✔ Thursday 2nd May – H&NL monthly meet around 7pm at The Golden Eagle, Ashley Green, HP5 3PW.

*Paul Harrison*

*Mobile: 07710 316558*

*Email: p\_harrison63@hotmail.com*

## SUFFOLK & N.ESSEX

**A**pril has arrived with Easter being very early this year, the first long weekend of the year; then it's only a couple of weeks to Drive it Day. This is always one of my favourites, this year Peter is arranging the route and a nice pub for food to end the day.

Back in March our N&N was very well attended with over 20 of us enjoying the food offered at the George, joined later by the rest of the group making it a great evening. Hopefully the lighter evenings, now the clocks have (like a stag), leaped forward will coax some stags out. By the time you are reading this the events list will be on the updated area web page. We have quite a full programme so take a look and book yourself in for the events you want to attend. Let's hope it's another great



year of motoring in our Stags with sun and great company.

We meet up on the 1st Wednesday of the month from about 8pm (6:30 for a meal) at The George Pub, Hintlesham near Ipswich IP8 3NH. Please come and join us for a chat and a drink.

Check out our page in the website for news and upcoming events. <https://www.stag.org.uk/suffolk-n-essex-home/>

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ 3rd April N&N The George. Hintlesham IP8 3NH
- ✔ 21st April Drive it Day
- ✔ 1st May N&N The George. Hintlesham IP8 3NH
- ✔ 5th May Ipswich to Felixstowe Road run (book direct £20 per car)
- ✔ 27th May East Anglian Railway Museum

### SUFFOLK AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/suffolk-n-essex-home/>

*Tim Hart*

Mobile: 07749 895710 [suffolk@stag.org.uk](mailto:suffolk@stag.org.uk)

## NORTHANTS

**New Co-ordinator required**

Please contact the Regional Co-ordinator

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06/12/23

# OUT & ABOUT

## M I D L A N D S

Regional Co-ordinator:

James Scott [scottygsxr@gmail.com](mailto:scottygsxr@gmail.com)

Mob: 07970 206829

### SOUTH BIRMINGHAM

#### N

oele's Notebook

The first of March, as you know, is the and we found an excellent way to welcome the new season.

At an earlier N&N meeting Tony suggested that a skittles evening be organised and that the Worcester Area members be invited to join us in a friendly competition. The idea was enthusiastically accepted. So Scotty and Tony set about finding a suitable venue and a fish and chip supper.

The event took place at the Catshill Working Mens Club in Bromsgrove with total of 36 people attending, mostly from the South Birmingham Area. Two teams 'A' and 'B' were established and three rounds were played. The final score being 2-1 to team 'A'.



Everyone had a lot of fun and agreed that the fish and chips were some of the best they had tasted.

A truly successful event, thoroughly enjoyed by all. Tony and Scotty are to be congratulated for the organisation and at a cost of £10 pp what more could you ask for.

Changing the subject, I spent a few days installing some daylight running lights to my Stag following the design that Gary reported on in the September 2023 issue of the club magazine. All went reasonably well until I tested the system before finally bolting everything in to place. Turning on the ignition the lights came on as they should but there was also a 'whining' sound coming from somewhere. I finally discovered the noise was coming from the relay and you could feel it vibrating.



Speaking to Gary and Vehicle Wiring Products Ltd both were unable to explain why the relay was making such a noise. Clearly the relay was faulty but fortunately a replacement cured the problem. So all's well that ends well, as some bloke once said.

#### DIARY DATES

##### April

- 7th Coffee and Chrome British Motor Museum, Gaydon
- 13 Pride of Longbridge Cofton Park B31
- 21 Drive It Day Rh Insurance, 2 Birch Court, Blackpole Road, Worcester, WR3 8SG
- 27 SOCTFL AGM British Motor Museum, Gaydon, Warwickshire,
- 29 Bowling, Green Shaw Lane, Stoke Prior, B60 4BH
- 30 Spring Motorfest. Chetwynd Deer Park Shropshire TF10 8EU

##### May

- 4 / 5 Speed into Spring Shelsley Walsh WR6 6RP
- 11 / 12 Marches Transport Festival, Ludlow Castle, SY8
- 11 Bidford Vintage Gathering, Honeybourne Road, Bidford On Avon Warwickshire B50
- 18 Redditch Classic Motor Show, Redditch Town Centre, Redditch, Worcs. B98 8AA
- 19 Classic Wheels, Rutland Showground, Showground Way, Oakham LE15 7TW
- 27 Bowling, Green Shaw Lane, Stoke Prior, B60 4BH

#### SOUTH BIRMINGHAM AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/sba-home-page-2/>

James Scott

Mob: 07970 206829 [scottygsxr@gmail.com](mailto:scottygsxr@gmail.com)

**I**nternational MG and Triumph Spares Day  
Waking up to frost and fog we set off in the modern car as our local roads were also flooded. We had an uneventful trip as far as the road closure advised the day before. Luckily there were 2 men telling us where the diversion was as there were no signs, left, left, left to the gate.

Following some medical problems Alison now has a blue badge so we parked opposite the show entrance and straight in without waiting.

First port of call the club stand where we were greeted with a hot drink, very welcome.

We set off to look around the stalls, plenty of parts for sale some shiny, many rusty but not what we were looking for. As we went round we met several friends and exchanged news. After a pitstop for lunch and another hot drink we had another quick look around but failed to find the washer jets that are badly needed-have to buy new!!

Remember the diversion? left out of the gate, right, right, right. WRONG you can't turn right it is one way so had to head straight on. no signs again. After many wrong turns, ending up near the University in Coventry found the A45 back to Stoneleigh roundabout and a road we knew. Then a crawl as far as M42 J9 as everything diverted that way off the closed motorway. Some lovely countryside just not the view we were expecting.

At home at last, celebrated Chinese New Year with a Chinese meal and a bottle of wine.

Now to finish getting the Stag ready for the Rally season starting with Weston Park on Easter Sunday.

Alison and Phil Belt

### March Meeting

We had a good meeting and it was nice to meet new member, Ray, who is currently looking for a Stag, preferably with a ZF auto gearbox fitted. Jan did her first raffle without Beccy being there. Beccy has done the raffle for as long as I have been a Club member and has now stepped back and Jan "volunteered" to take over.

Various shows were booked, please look below for dates or the Smiley Faces that Phil sends out, which will be more up to date and show who is going and any last minute changes.

### New members

For anyone who has recently joined the Club or hasn't got round to attending a meeting or event, please be assured we would love to see you and you will be made very welcome. Phil and Andrew's details are in the coordinator's directory should you want to ask any questions or want any information. Phone calls, messages and emails are welcome.

### WhatsApp Group

If anyone who hasn't already joined wants to join our area WhatsApp group, please get in touch with Andy

Williams on 07917 876292. There are currently 31 of us in the group.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm at the Cooper Arms, The Green, Weston on Trent DE72 2BJ and members from all areas are welcome to join us.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1st May at 7.30pm.

### DIARY DATES

All dates could change, so please check with the organisers or Phil.

Booking is direct with the organisers where contact details are supplied

\*These dates are provisional and need to be confirmed

- ✔ 21st April Drive It Day
- ✔ 4th – 5th May Donington Historic Festival
- ✔ 5th May Thorsby Hall
- ✔ 5th- 6th May Papplewick Pumping Station Classic Cars  
Booking via Papplewick website
- ✔ 11th- 12th May Ludlow Spring Festival
- ✔ 19th May Tally Ho Classic Car Run [www.crookedspire-classic.co.uk](http://www.crookedspire-classic.co.uk)
- ✔ 27th May Rolleston Transport Festival
- ✔ 1st June Coventry Motofest
- ✔ 9th June Nottingham Motor Show
- ✔ 16th June Crooked Spire Classic Run [www.crooked-spireclassic.co.uk](http://www.crooked-spireclassic.co.uk)
- ✔ \*18th Eckington Classic Show 3.00pm – 8.00pm No booking required
- ✔ 22nd – 23rd June Ashby Steam Festival
- ✔ 23rd June Standard Triumph Picnic, Walton Hall, Warks  
No booking required
- ✔ 23rd June Carsington Water Classic Cars
- ✔ 28th – 30th June Interclub International, Malvern
- ✔ 6th – 7th July Elvaston Castle Steam Rally
- ✔ 6th – 7th July Cars in the Park, Lichfield
- ✔ 28th July Ashover Classic Car and Bike Show
- ✔ 3rd-4th August Hebden Bridge Vintage Weekend
- ✔ 11th August Ilkeston Classic Car Show
- ✔ \*17th August Barlow Carnival
- ✔ 23rd-25th August Silverstone Classic
- ✔ 25th August Gloucester Goes Retro
- ✔ 26th August Pershore Plum Festival
- ✔ 8th September Area Day and Triumph Day Great British Car Journey
- ✔ 14th – 15th September Road, Rail & Ale, Statfold Railway

### NOTTS / DERBY AREA WEBSITE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/notts-derbys-area-group/>

*Phil Gunn*

*Tel: 07542 338100 [nottsderby@stag.org.uk](mailto:nottsderby@stag.org.uk)*

## WORCESTERSHIRE

It's always a quiet time of year but we do try to get together when we can, and our February Snowdrop walk has become a classic. We met up at Evesham Country park for a pleasant drive through the Cotswold to Upton Wold Farm. However to say the weather was bad does not fully describe how bad it actually was, everywhere was flooded. 2 members didn't turn up as their roads were flooded, and Martin and Veronica turned up, but said the roads were so bad and flooded they just wanted to get back home.



And so it was that 13 intrepid explorers from the Worcestershire Stag Owners club set off through the hurling rain of the Cotswolds; a Volvo, a Discovery, a Ford Puma, a Mercedes, a Skoda, a Tesla and oh yes, one lonely Stag!

It was a lovely drive through the villages, but as Bob said, "it would have been a lot better with the sun up and the roof down".

Clearly it was too wet for a walk, but we all had lunch and a long chat at Batsford Arboretum before dispersing back home through the premature night!!

We have also challenged the South Birmingham group to a skittles match and fish and chip supper which took place on 1st March. Full marks to South Birmingham for fielding such a large number of participants on a dark winter's night. Our group doesn't have a very good track record of playing skittles, so that, and some illness, kept our numbers down to 13. As a result we had to co-opt



some of South Birmingham's members and we played as teams A and B. We still lost but the margin was really close at the end. Well done South Birmingham!!

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ 4th April (Thursday) - N&N 19:30 for 20:00 The Oak
- ✔ 8 - 12th April - Cornwall holiday
- ✔ 21st April - Drive it Day
- ✔ 25th April - The Blossom Trial (Thursday) - meet at Chadbury Farm shop/cafe.
- ✔ 2nd May - N&N 19:30 for 20:00 The Oak
- ✔ TBA May - Bluebell walk - Lower Bentley
- ✔ 17-25 May - Laon Historique
- ✔ 25 May - Motul Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb
- ✔ 6 June - N&N 19:30 for 20:00 The Oak
- ✔ TBA June - Confetti fields, Pershore
- ✔ 28 - 30 June - Inter club International Weekend, Malvern

### WORCESTERSHIRE AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/members-area/uk-area-websites/worcs-area-main-page/>

*Paul Catterall*

*Tel: 01684 566106 knightsyard@btinternet.com*

## SOUTH CHESHIRE / NORTH STAFFORD

For those Members who wish to display their Stags on our stand at Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire car show on Sat June 1st and Sun June 2nd for either day or both-PLEASE RING ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE PASSES ARE GOING VERY FAST.

But before June we have our first classic car show at Capesthorpe Hall in Cheshire on May 26th and if you would like to be included on our stand then please arrange your pass with CLASSIC SHOWS ON LINE OR PAY ON THE GATE WHEN YOU GET THERE and come and join us for the day.

On the 14th July Nigel Cross (North Lancs area Co-ordinator) has a classic car show in Caerwys in Wales and some of our members take part and if you wish to join them then please ring Nigel for your pass as soon as possible.

21st July Capesthorpe Hall Cheshire classic car show and if you wish to join us then please arrange for your pass on line with CLASSIC SHOWS ON LINE OR PAY ON THE GATE AND COME AND JOIN US FOR THE DAY.

11th August we shall be joining Nigel and his West Lancs area at the Wirral classic car display at Claremont Farm, Wirral. Please ring Nigel for details.

17th and 18th August its Tatton Parks PASSION FOR POWER SHOW and if you would like to display your Stag on our stand for either day or both then please ring me for your pass as soon as possible because these passes are free to us and go very quickly.

1st September Arley Hall Cheshire.  
Here's hoping for lovely weather,

See you there, JUDY.

*Judy Harrison*  
Tel: 0161 748 4608

## SHROPSHIRE & SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE

**H**i All,

Hope you are all looking forward to some decent weather so we can get our beloved stags out on the road ! We currently have two stags undergoing full restorations, both are making good progress. Mine should be completed by the time you read this article and we are looking forward to meeting some of you during the season.

Our N&N's at the lamb are going well. We were pleased to welcome new member Hank to the group. Hopefully next month we will have more to talk about with pictures from the events we attend.

Thanks, Steve.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ N&N's are held every second Tuesday at The Lamb Inn, 29 Shrewsbury Road, Edgmond, Newport, TF10 8HU.
- ✔ N&N - 9th April
- ✔ N&N - 14th May
- ✔ N&N - 11th June

*Steve Ellison*

Mobile: 07710 642963    [steven.ellison@icloud.com](mailto:steven.ellison@icloud.com)

## WARWICKSHIRE / LEICESTERSHIRE

**B**eginning to plan various events and the schedule is developing nicely. Some usual suspects in our events calendar but some new ones too. Our 'Drive it Day' effort this year is a drive to 'The Depot' ordnance museum at Weedon and we have 17 cars lined up, so that should be quite impressive. If you come across shows that look interesting let me know and we'll what can be done to have a presence.

Slow progress on the projects as the weather hasn't exactly been kind. 2k is almost there now. I've made progress with the computer settings for the gearbox and she's a few tweaks away, I hope. Sam's GT has stalled somewhat as we need to get her out of the garage to work on and it's been far to wet. We'll make progress soon, I hope, once it stop raining. Good job I have webbed feet, but that's another story.

Finally, a huge congratulations to Roger and Lesley who celebrate 50 years of wedded bliss on April 13th.

A reminder that we now have a WhatsApp group. Let Di know if you want to be included on that dragonsnap192@outlook.com

Tone and Di

### DIARY DATES

**WARWICKSHIRE** –Our regular monthly meetings will be held on the first Tuesday evening of the Month at the COCKED HAT, Rugby Rd, Binley Woods, Coventry CV3 2TA from 7pm, unless otherwise advised below.

**LEICESTERSHIRE** - Every third Tuesday evening of the month at THE CHARNWOOD ARMS, Beveridge Lane, Bardon Hill, Coalville, Leicestershire, LE67 1TB from 7pm, unless otherwise advised below.

**SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE** –Meetings are now fixed for the third Friday of the month at the GILKS GARAGE CAFE, Banbury Road, Kineton, CV35 OJZ. From 6pm-8:30pm. Any one-off changes look out for emails.

Check out our Warks/Leics Area Website for more details on how to book events etc.

### Recurring events.

- ✔ 1st Sunday of the Month – Middleton Hall nr Tamworth. - £5 per car. Just turn up? (we're checking)
- ✔ 2nd Thursday of the Month – Southam Meet. Just turn up.
- ✔ April Sun 21st – FBHVC Drive It Day –'The Depot' at Weedon is the end point for our drive out. I have about 15 cars signed up already. Let me know please if you want to take part.
- ✔ May Sat 11th – Daventry. MotoFest. Watch for announcements via email/website. Let me know please
- ✔ May Sun 19th – Rutland Classic Wheels. Let me know please.

## YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU AREA CO-ORDINATORS – WHAT'S INVOLVED?

**E**ver thought of becoming an SOC Area Co-ordinator, but been put off by all that might be expected of you?

Well here is the minimum effort version of what you can get away with.

1. **Organise a monthly meeting, this will probably involve going to a pub and eating, drinking and talking. See not too bad so far.**
2. **Be a point of contact – answer phone calls, respond to emails etc**
3. **Delegate**

The last one is probably the most useful, hopefully there will be members in your area who will be willing to organise a run out or something, but on a one off basis.

Writing the monthly report for the magazine, this can vary from nothing to pages and pictures although details of the monthly meeting is helpful. Again, the mantra - **DELEGATE**

# OUT & ABOUT

## NORTH EAST

Regional Co-ordinator:

Graham Falshaw [meredies@talktalk.net](mailto:meredies@talktalk.net)

Tel: 01977 677733

### WEST YORKSHIRE

**W**ell, it's March now and by the time of you reading this we will all have our cars out of hibernation and back on the road maybe even a run to blow out the cobwebs. While listening to people at events we carry out I noted some of the work people have done on their cars, Wendy & John Philips's repairs to the fuel tank. I am having to weld a plate on my chassis for the Mot, Andrew Peel's had a new fuel pump and I'm sure that others have found something in need for their cars too alas David Purnel's car won't be back on the road from what I hear due to his engineer, but I'm sure David will find a way of joining us on our events. One of which is Tony & Hazel Flynn ten pin bowling event was held at Junction 32 Castleford in February. They have been organising this now for more years than I care to remember, and it is still very popular with some people playing and then going for a meal or others just coming and giving support and having the meal which we dined at the Eastern Court. This year's winner after two games for the gents was for a change Paul Billingham and the ladies' Key Spurgeon.



The wooden spoon for Wendy

Another event that we attend is an inter-car club quiz, in which 6 clubs including ourselves compete over the winter months for a trophy at the moment I think we are in 2nd place but with another 2 quizzes to go anything can happen

Wayne Day

Email: [westyorkshire@stag.org.uk](mailto:westyorkshire@stag.org.uk)

### CLEVELAND & CO DURHAM

#### DIARY DATES

- ✔ April 21st Drive it Day to Bassenthwaite Station.
  - ✔ May 17th/19th North Yorkshire Triumph Weekend. Book with Grouse Hill.
  - ✔ May 19th Styford Hall with Northumbria.
  - ✔ May 25th Ushaw Classic Car & Bike Show, [www.ushaw.org/whatson/ushaw-classic-car-show-24/](http://www.ushaw.org/whatson/ushaw-classic-car-show-24/)
  - ✔ May 26th Thornton le Dale Classic Car Show, [www.tdsacarshow.com](http://www.tdsacarshow.com)
  - ✔ June 2nd West Hartlepool Rugby Club.
  - ✔ June 9th Beaufront Castle with Northumbria.
  - ✔ June 23rd Barnard Castle Classic & Retro Car Meet £5 per car entry, goes to charity.
  - ✔ June 30th Woodhorn Colliery with Northumbria.
- If there's anything you wish to know, just get in touch Mike.

Mike Reeve

Tel: 01642 710101 [michaelreeve121@btinternet.com](mailto:michaelreeve121@btinternet.com)



The winner Paul Billingham



*Northumbria members in bright February sunshine overlooking the North Sea*

## NORTHUMBRIA

**O**n 24 February 9 Northumbria Stags, 7 with tops down, gathered in uncharacteristically brilliant winter sunshine at The Hillhead Tearoom overlooking the North Sea at Marsden for N&N. The sky was blue and visibility was 20 miles but the winter sun had to work hard to keep the temperature above 7C and we wrapped up accordingly, enjoying bacon butties and coffees outside on the terrace. John S proudly paraded his new white paintwork.

Welcome to new members John & Lynne Gough with their inca yellow Triumph Spitfire which will certainly add variety on our drives. We look forward to seeing you both out & about.

And a very belated welcome to 'new' member Charles Clark who lives in remotest Chillingham. Charles has been a member for some time but sneaked under my radar as he has until recently shunned all digital comms. It will be nice to have his well-polished sienna brown Stag to enhance our Area line up photos and we look forward to seeing Charles on one of our castle drives when current engine work is completed.

On Drive It Day we will drive to Langley Castle, built in 1350 and whose owners were executed in the Tower of London for taking part in the Jacobite Rebellion in 1715. We will meet members of the TR register at the Castle where we will all have coffee and scones and enjoy a short tour of the castle battlements. Then both clubs will combine for a short drive to Allendale and upper Weardale – waving at other

clubs as we pass - details to follow by email.

Members may be interested to join the Car Barn Drivers Club [www.carbarn.co.uk](http://www.carbarn.co.uk) which is free to join. Monthly meetings are held from 17.30hrs on Thursday evenings at The Car Barn (Aston Workshop near Beamish). On a sunny summer evening this could be a great place for us to meet for a drink with other classic owners – we will keep this in mind for future N&Ns.

Many thanks to Ian Falconer for his generous donation which we will direct to one of the local charities later this year. Ian's is another Triumph we haven't yet seen on the road – hopefully as soon as current niggles are sorted.

Cumbria members – feel free to email me if you would like to join any of our drives.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ 21 April – Drive It Day - drive for coffee & scones to arrive at Grade 1 listed Castle at 11.00hrs - once owned by the Earl of Northumberland, already a ruin by the 16th century but now fully refurbished as a luxury hotel; to include private tour of and photos from the battlements; coordinating arrival with TR Register on their Drive It Day at the castle.
- ✔ 19 May - drive for coffee & scones to a very private family owned country house and stable block built around 1800 on the secluded north banks of the River Tyne west of Bywell
- ✔ 9 June – drive with TR Register (and our drone pilot) for coffee & scones and free barbershop entertainment to large family owned Grade 1 listed Gothic revival style Castle near Hexham based on a 17th century mansion with unparalleled views across the Tyne Valley.



- ✔ 30 June – drive to Woodhorn Colliery museum; to include private guided tour of colliery buildings where 2,000 men mined 600,000 tonnes of coal a year; the 'Pitmen Painters' art collection shows what life was like for miners from Ashington in the 1930s; café and photo opportunity in front of impressive original colliery winding towers.
- ✔ 14 July – drive through spectacular Northumberland countryside with TR Register to park for photos in front of fabulous 17th century grade 1 listed private country house incorporating a 14th century pele tower near Whittingham in north Northumberland for coffee & scones, private tour led by current resident who is a historic car enthusiast, small museum and unique photo opportunity from the castle roof.
- ✔ 28 July – drive for coffee & scones to park in front of a grand Georgian neo-classical private 19th century stone country house with views over Budle Bay near Bamburgh; the property was once owned by the captain of HMS Bulldog which captured U-110 and seized its Enigma cypher machine with codes during WWII.
- ✔ 25 August – drive with TR Register along the Roman Wall towards the Northumberland National Park for coffee & scones at a fabulous yet little known large family owned Grade 1 listed Castle used for film sets on the River North Tyne
- ✔ Also:

- ✔ 2 June – Thirlestane Castle – details already circulated – book via John L (East of Scotland)
- ✔ 21 July – Newby Hall classic car show
- ✔ 19-22 Sept – Isle of Man Festival of Motoring organised by SCT
- ✔ Sept tbc – Beamish Museum Classic Car Show organised by Necpwa  
Roland & Brian

*Roland Tate*  
rolandtatecf@gmail.com

## NORTH YORKSHIRE

*Andy Maughan*  
Mobile: 07762 543920  
asmaughan@ntlworld.com

## LINCOLNSHIRE / HUMBERSIDE

**New Co-ordinator required**

Please contact the Regional Co-ordinator

*Graham Falshaw*  
meredies@talktalk.net

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# OUT & ABOUT

## NORTH WEST

Regional Co-ordinator:

Jeff Booth [jeff.booth1@btinternet.com](mailto:jeff.booth1@btinternet.com)

Tel: 077 1000 1893

### MANCHESTER / NORTH CHESHIRE

**N**ot much to report at this time of the year, but of course plenty of activity going on in terms of firming up our plans for the season and getting our bookings in place.

Our March meeting continued this theme and I have had a good response from members confirming their individual plans. Attendance numbers were on the low side due to family commitments, but it was nice to welcome back Marc Leedham after a period of absence. Also good to see him giving his Stag a run out after having significant work done. We are not planning meetings for April and May as we have a few weekend events booked so I will keep up everyone updated via email. Please contact me if you need any specific event information in the mean time.

Nick Rowland

#### DIARY DATES

##### April

- ☛ Sunday 7th to be confirmed – possible Cheshire run out
- ☛ Sunday 21st Drive it Day run out to The Carding Shed

##### May

- ☛ Sunday 12th Cheshire MG Club Candle Run
- ☛ Sunday 12th Claremont Farm, Wirral Classic Car Club show
- ☛ Saturday 18th Weaver Wander
- ☛ Sunday 26th Capesthorpe Hall
- ☛ Monday 27th Gawsworth Youngtimers Show

##### June

- ☛ Sat/Sun 1/2nd Tatton Park Classic & Performance
- ☛ Sunday 9th Meeting to be confirmed
- ☛ Sunday 16th Peaks & Dales run
- ☛ Sunday 23rd Triumph Picnic & Hog Roast
- ☛ Sunday 23rd Lymm Transport Festival
- ☛ Fri/Sun 28/30th Interclub Weekend, Malvern

##### July

- ☛ Sunday 14th SOC National Day, Brands Hatch
- ☛ Sunday 14th Caerwys Show
- ☛ Sunday 21st Chatsworth House Classic car show

##### August

- ☛ Sat/Sun 3/4th Hebden Bridge Vintage Weekend
- ☛ Sunday 11th Meeting to be confirmed
- ☛ Sat/Sun 17/18th Tatton Park Passion for Power
- ☛ Fri/Sun 23/25th Silverstone Festival
- ☛ Sun/Mon 25/26th Capesthorpe Hall shows

- ☛ Sun/Mon 25/26th Prestatyn Classic weekend

#### MANCHESTER / NORTH CHESHIRE AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/manchester-north-cheshire-area-home-page/>

Nick Rowland

Tel: 01606 624054 [manchester@stag.org.uk](mailto:manchester@stag.org.uk)

### NORTH LANCASHIRE

**W**e had our area AGM at last months N&N around 20 members attended. No one was put forward for the roles of Coordinator and deputy so both Phil and myself agreed to take on the role for another year.

After the fiasco with our previous location for our N&N's all went well with our new location, the new landlord does not do food except at weekends but said he would put on a buffet for us if we wanted for our meetings.

As well as the official voting in of our officials we knocked together an events programme for the year. At the same time the members decided they wanted more runs out. Our format has been to meet up around 10:00 travel out with a stop for a light lunch then an afternoon coffee break and finish with a late afternoon meal around 16:00. It was decided to alter this to cut down on the meal breaks we will have a later start in the early afternoon and have our late afternoon meal later at around 18:30 this would still give us time to eat and still get home at a reasonable time and we will still have a coffee break in between. We will try this new format on drive it day to see how it goes.

We also decided to take up the landlords offer of a buffet for our March meeting which was yesterday. He actually put on an enjoyable pie, chips and mushy peas meal for us for an unbelievable price of £5 per person, as most people were expecting a buffet not the bigger option of pie and chips it was decided next month (April) we will be trying a buffet which was arranged. If this works ok we will have the occasional N&N with a buffet but not every month.

What a coincidence, reading the article in March's magazine about worn buckets, Brian found his valves were getting a bit noisy and on stripping the head found worn buckets and guides, none of our local members had seen badly worn buckets before so an interesting timely article. The heads are in the process of being rebuilt so should be back together in time for our first event. Mick's

Rover engine has now had a rebuild and been on a dyno, I forgot the actual figures obtained but around 185bhp, his Stag should be back on the road in next couple of weeks. Phil has sorted his electrical problems and rewired his headlights to 4 main beams and 2 dipped, how Triumph should have done it from the start in my opinion, maybe Peter with his wealth of knowledge may cover the reason in one of his excellent articles about the Stag. Trina has found someone to repair the zip on their soft top without removing it from the car so she will be happier in our unpredictable climate.

All this means our area will be all good to go on our first event which is Drive it Day run arrives.

The location for our meetings at present is:- The Feilden Arms Pub, 2 Whalley Road, Mellor Brook, Lancashire BB2 7PR

From the M6 leave on junction 31 and take the A59 towards Clitheroe after 2Km bear left at lights staying on A59 towards Clitheroe. Pass BAE Salmesbury and at the first roundabout turn right the road bears left and just around the corner is the entrance to the car park at the Feilden Arms. Our regular meetings take place on the SECOND TUESDAY of each month at 20:00 hrs. EXCEPT JULY

## DIARY DATES

### April

Sunday 21st Drive it Day

### May

- ✔ Sunday 12th Run out details to be confirmed
- ✔ Sunday 19th Lytham Hall (£8.00/car) For club stand we need 5 cars
- ✔ Sat-Mon 25/26/27 Chipping Steam Fair preferred day  
Sunday 26th

### June

- ✔ Saturday 1st Tatton Park
- ✔ Sat/Sunday 1-2nd Heskin Steam Fair preferred date  
Sunday 2nd
- ✔ Sunday 9th Hark T Bounty steam meeting
- ✔ Sunday 16th John Whittaker Run details to be confirmed
- ✔ Sunday 23rd Hutton in the Forrest show (£7.00) For club stand we need 5 cars
- ✔ Sunday 30th Fylde Vintage show
- ✔ Sunday 30th Townley Hall alternative venue

### July

- ✔ Sunday 7th Leighton Hall (£8.00) For club stand we need 5 cars
- ✔ Tuesday 9th Afternoon Run and Meal instead of meeting (just the meal is an option)
- ✔ Sunday 21st Newby Hall
- ✔ Sat/Sun 27th 28th Flookburgh steam
- ✔ Alternative event Leeds MG classic pudding run

### August

- ✔ Sat/Sun 3-4th Hebden Bridge classic car show (Sunday preferred)
- ✔ Sunday 18th Run out details to be confirmed

### September

- ✔ Sunday 8th BVPG show Lytham Green (old Fairhaven lake)

- ✔ Sometime in Sept Elland show

## NORTH LANCASHIRE AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/north-lancs-page-1/>

*David Haughton*

*Tel: 01772601164 d\_haughton@btopenworld.com*

## WEST LANCASHIRE

**N**othing additional to report, other than that I have booked a pitch for 20 cars at Caerwys (14th July). Those who have been before will agree that it is a superb venue and free to enter, although I do make a collection on the day for the event's nominated charity. The pitch will be generous and will easily accommodate more than 20 cars if necessary! Please let me know asap if you want a ticket as I hope to give them out at early season events to avoid postage. I have had one request already (thank you, Adrian)

## DIARY DATES

- ✔ Sunday 12th May Claremont Farm (Wirral) This is now a pre-booked event. Visit the Wirral Classic Car Club website and book your place (mention S.O.C.). If there are enough of us, I will try to arrange an area for us to park together.
- ✔ Sun/Mon 26th/27th May Capesthorpe Hall. (We normally go on the Sunday) Book your own ticket via the Classic Shows website. Early booking attracts a significant discount. Let me know, and I will try to arrange for us to park together
- ✔ Sat/Sun 1st/2nd June Tatton Park Book via Judy Harrison (South Cheshire/North Staffs Coordinator)
- ✔ Sunday 7th July Lydiate Just turn up and make a donation to the show charity on the gate.
- ✔ Sunday 14th July Caerwys. (see above)
- ✔ Sunday 21st July Capesthorpe Hall. Classic Shows, booking arrangement as per the show at the same venue on the Spring Bank Holiday weekend above.  
Later season events, booking arrangements to follow:-
- ✔ Sun 11th August Claremont Farm
- ✔ Sat/Sun 17th/18th August Tatton Park  
Don't forget, S.O.C. membership entitles you to attend any event, irrespective of which area organises it.

*Nigel Cross*

*Mobile: 07766 696393 crossnigel95@gmail.com*

## NORTH WALES

*Peter Tolhurst*

*Mobile: 07830 194747 northwales@stag.org.uk*

# OUT & ABOUT

## SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Regional Co-ordinator:

*Willie Clark* [wos-stagclub@hotmail.com](mailto:wos-stagclub@hotmail.com)

*Mob: 07939 928839*

### WEST OF SCOTLAND

**P**lanning for this years events are coming along nicely, with 3 shows already fully booked. Our first outing will be Drive it Day in April where hopefully we can get those stags back on the road and blow away all the winter cobwebs.

#### DIARY DATES

- ✔ April: 21st Drive it Day
- ✔ May: 12th Bridge of Allan ( Fully Booked)
- ✔ June: 9th Errol ( Fully Booked)
- ✔ June 29/30th Moffat
- ✔ July: 13/14th Glamis ( Fully Booked)
- ✔ Aug: 11th Biggar
- ✔ Sept: 7/8th Scone

We expect entry forms to be with us soon for the remaining shows, anyone wishing to attend please let me know ASAP as we are limited to numbers due to allocated stand space.

Meetings held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at The Redhurst everyone welcome.

*Willie Clark*

*Mob: 07939 928839* [wos-stagclub@hotmail.com](mailto:wos-stagclub@hotmail.com)

### GRAMPIAN

**E**ntry forms for rallies are available and our event calendar is filling up nicely. The first event is the Drive-it Day road run. As usual we will be meeting at Aberdeen Beach Esplanade and heading to the Grampian Transport Museum in Alford. Remember to avoid the Bus Gates! Details of the run are on the [gvr.net](http://gvr.net) website. All vehicles are welcome to come along.

Meetings are at the Leys Hotel, Main Road, Blackburn, AB21 OSS.

They are on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, at 8pm. All welcome.

Website: [www.grampianstags.net](http://www.grampianstags.net)

*Alan Sharpe*

*Tel: 01467 621189* [alan.sharpe@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.sharpe@btinternet.com)

### EAST OF SCOTLAND

**T**he show at Thirlestane Castle in the Borders is on 2nd June, and the deadline for entries is 21st April, so there's still time to book a place. Also, we have again been invited by member Stephen Leckie to view his varied collection of classic cars at Crieff Hydro on Saturday 20th April. It's well worth a visit – if anyone is interested, please let me know and I'll send details. A run out in April/May is proposed, maybe lunch around Gullane in East Lothian and a visit to the Myreton motor museum near Aberlady. If anyone would like to participate (or suggest alternatives) then please let me know.

Club nights continue to be held in the Hawes Inn at South Queensferry on the second Monday of the month, starting at around 8pm, at which all members are welcome.

*John Lewthwaite*

*Mobile: 07791 136599* [eastscotland@stag.org.uk](mailto:eastscotland@stag.org.uk)

### NORTHERN IRELAND

*Brian Linden*

*Mobile: 07979954381* [bflinden@aol.com](mailto:bflinden@aol.com)

# OUT & ABOUT

## S O U T H C E N T R A L

### THAMES VALLEY

**H**ello all,  
As the recently nominated co-ordinator I would like firstly to thank Ian for all his years in this role. I am sure all will agree that he has done a first class job. Thankfully Ian has agreed to stay on as Deputy which will be very much appreciated and I am certainly going to be drawing on his previous experience.

So a little about me. I am a relative newbie to Stag ownership compared to most of you out there, having only joined the family in November 2021. I purchased my car JAY798L from Anglia Car Auctions, a two previous owner car from new with a modest 57,000 miles recorded.

Things did not start off well, as upon collection a week later she was a non starter; however after a few taps on the fuel pump and a splash of Super unleaded we had lift off and she was driven onto the car transporter I had organised. We were soon on our way to my father's house near Reading where I had successfully managed an eviction from the garage of his VW to secure a dry home for the Stag.

After a thorough examination all appeared good structurally with none of the common rust areas having any issues or evidence of any in the past, although there was some evidence of micro-blistering to the paintwork.

Various jobs were then scheduled, the first being to rebuild the fuel pump and investigate the non-activity of the fuel gauge and a general check over prior to the first outing.

The maiden journey apart from a few trips of short distances was to my first N&N with the Club; a not totally successful event as it decided to rain and I embarrassingly could not get the hood to close once I was there. The seasoned members soon came to my rescue and I was



thankfully watertight once more.

More recommissioning work was carried out to ensure the car's reliability and once that had been done my confidence gradually increased to start to venture further afield enjoying many of the events organised by the club.

Work did not stop though. A complete strip de-rust and paint of the front suspension took place and new pads and hoses were fitted at the same time. Also, new seat foams were fitted to uplift the interior.

However the micro-blistering paintwork had got worse over time and although I could improve it considerably by wet flattening and machine polishing I knew this was only a temporary fix and so December last year I took the decision to bare metal the car and then take it to be repainted. It was booked in for the work to start on Jan 2. The guy doing the work was more than happy for me to be present at his bodyshop as the work progressed, which I welcomed and I very much enjoyed the practical involvement this allowed me.

At this time I have the car almost back together with just minor fitting up left to do, as we know the job is never truly finished, there is always something to do.

Back to general news our next event (March 24th) will be Sunday lunch gratefully organised by Barry, at The Fircrest PH, Wendover, more on that in next months bulletin.

#### DIARY DATES

- ✔ Tuesday 9th April - Monthly N&N. Shire Horse, Littlewick Green.
- ✔ Tuesday 14th May - Monthly N&N. Shire Horse, Littlewick Green.
- ✔ Tuesday 11th June - Monthly N&N. Shire Horse, Littlewick Green.

David Yapp  
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## COTSWOLDS

**M**eetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month from 7pm, currently in the Golden Heart at Nettleton Bottom. Located on the A417 near Birdlip, the postcode is GL4 8LA.

As the Cotswolds Area was formed in 1980 our recent AGM must have been the 43rd, and with no alternative nominations or objections forthcoming Mark and I were duly re-elected. Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Following the formality various topics were discussed including the importance of checking ALL insurance policy details, including the vehicle registration. Andy updated us on his Stag rebuild and all agreed that while the cost of parts spirals ever upwards, there is often much to be desired regarding quality and fit.

### Technical Hints

My recently purchased tonneau seal fits like a ready made shirt on a pump handle, but I have no idea whether the car is as original, and glueing the seal is not a sensible option as it sits in a drainage channel. Also, is it possible that excessive paint thickness would prevent straightforward fitting of external door handle gaskets, or are the gaskets simply too thick? In any case accessing the mechanism is far from easy - I wonder whether the design intended to increase dealership workshop time and charges? No doubt the current madness of placing master cylinders and starter motors within the bell housing is a moneymaker. However, judicious filing of the upper location channel on Mike H.'s door handles allowed final fitting.

Subsequently, thought turned to re-engineering the door panel push fit locators by using suitably sized nylon nuts and bolts. With the head depth reduced to allow flush panel fit and centre drilled to take a cup screw, glue the nut and bolt (to prevent rotation) to the door. The inner panel, carefully marked, is then offered up and secured with neat row of stainless steel cup screws. This method may be used wherever there is access to affix a nut within the door void.

With so many events being advertised ever earlier, it was more a matter of choosing what to omit from our calendar. Appeal and availability will vary but I believe the Diary Dates reflect a firm Area presence, and we also have some additions kindly facilitated by members. Please make your own booking arrangements for the commercial events and advise your participation for possible convoy travel.

Rupert Klaiber [rupertk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rupertk@hotmail.co.uk) Mark Jackson [cotswolds@stag.org.uk](mailto:cotswolds@stag.org.uk)

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ Tuesday 16th April Walls Ice Cream factory visit
- ✔ Sunday 21st April Drive It Day
- ✔ 11th / 12th May Classics at Prescott
- ✔ Sunday 26th May Gathering on the Green, Frampton
- ✔ Sunday 9th June Churchill Classic Car Show

- ✔ 14th / 16th June Weekend in Wales
- ✔ Friday 28th June Stroudwater Navigation visit
- ✔ Saturday 6th July Highnam Court Families Day
- ✔ Sunday 21st July Shelsley Walsh Classic
- ✔ Sunday 11th August Hook Norton Brewery classics meet and lunch
- ✔ Monday 26th August Pershore Plum Festival Classic Car Show

### COTSWOLD AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/cotswolds-area-home-page/>

*Rupert Klaiber*

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## OXFORD

**W**e had another well attended meeting in February, so a big thank you again to all who managed to make it along. We had some discussion about which event would be best to attend as a group, which wouldn't entail a big drive, and it was decided that we would attend the 'Bloxham Steam & Country Fair' on Saturday 29th June 2024. There will be at least 5 Stags from the Oxford area attending and we shall join others, who we aware will be attending from other areas.



Another topic of conversation was that of the recent 'Drive Your Triumph Day' and those who had attended provided some interesting feedback of the day. One of those who had attended from the Oxford area was Jason Williams and he has kindly provided some great shots, together with some details of their day. See Page 36

*Gary Witchalls*

*Tel: 01865 872443 Mobile: 07968 034191 [oxford@stag.org.uk](mailto:oxford@stag.org.uk)*



## SOLENT & NEW FOREST

**N**o runs to report as yet, however, there was exciting news as a video arrived, showing that, not only was Larry's Stag's rebuild progressing again, it was actually moving under its' own power! Hopefully, this means that he and Dianne will be able to join us on our runs later in the year.

Our annual Dinner took place at a new (to us) venue this year. After a great deal of work and research by Sally and David, we descended on the Lysses House Hotel, Fareham. Sally had done us proud by choosing the menu along with the chef, and negotiating very favourable discounts on their room rates for those who wished to stay the night. On the night, eighteen of us sat down to a delicious three course meal, and we decided it was definitely a place we would be returning to.

At the monthly meeting, further additions to this year's calendar were discussed and agreed on, and also a vote was taken, and as a result, Ian night and David Small were returned as Coordinator and Deputy, respectively.

### DIARY DATES

Our calendar can be found on our area page of the Club website, where it is constantly updated.

✔ If you wish to come to one of our monthly meetings, we meet at 8pm on the first Monday of the month at the Empress of Blandings pub, Romsey Road, Copythorne, SO40 2PF,

### SOLENT & NEW FOREST AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/home-2/>

*Ian Knight*

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## WILTSHIRE

**S**o it was back to our normal meeting place this month, having met on Sundays for the previous couple of months, replacing the steam lines of the Supercars at 5 Zero's with the familiar décor of the Milkchurn in Melksham.

It was good turn out, with nine of our regulars present, sadly no partners and only one Stag in the car park, well done Nick. This meant that most of our discussions were quite technical and car related.

We ratified dates in our 2024 diary, agreeing which date we would attend the Classics on the Quay events, this being Sunday May 12th, although we noted that several of these meetings had been cancelled due to inclement weather so hopefully we will see sunshine in May.

We agreed that we would visit the Boscombe Down Aviation Collection, a venue several of us visited a couple of years ago and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Nick will endeavour to find some dates in June for us to visit, Nick is also investigating an opportunity when we can possibly experience some gliding alongside an experienced pilot, although, Nick did point out that youngsters of only 14 years of age can now fly solo, but he assured us we would accompany pilots of more senior ages.

Our dates for Stags go to Wales is 29 - 31st August, hopefully we can confirm how many members will attend in March

Wiltshire members noted Lesley and Roger Phillips decision to retire from offices within the Stag club, all the members expressed their appreciation of the work they had put into the club, and wish them well as normal SOC members (that is if being a normal SOC member is a thing)

Our next months meeting will be led by Dave(Nick) Nicholls, as both John G and myself are on holiday, the plan is a quiz being supplied by the other Nick.



Work on my Stag has progressed, having decided to get the valve guides replaced and some severe erosion welded. I collected the heads in the last week of February, so its now in the rebuild stage, hopefully she will be back on the road for our Sunday lunch on 24th March

#### DIARY DATES

Details off all the our events and venues that we will be attending as Wiltshire SOC are included in our online 2024 Diary <https://www.stag.org.uk/wiltshire-area-welcome-page/wiltshire-soc-diary-2024/> this can be found on the Wiltshire Web page on the main SOC web site.

Please check our online diary as to where and when



our monthly meeting will be, Sunday lunch meetings are becoming more popular during the winter months

You will need to log in using your Membership No and password

- ♥ The Wiltshire Area SOC Club night April – November is held on the First Tuesday of the month from 8pm, at the The Milk Churn Pub, Melksham Wiltshire, SN12 6AD All SOC Stags, Owners, Partners and Children are very welcome!

#### WILTSHIRE AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/wiltshire-area-welcome-page/>

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# OUT & ABOUT

S O U T H   E A S T

Regional Co-ordinator:  
Steve Kiefer [schkiefer@aol.com](mailto:schkiefer@aol.com)  
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## SOUTH EAST LONDON

I'm starting this month's article on a rather sombre note.

Anyone reading March's magazine will know that sadly Russell Montlake-Mees passed away at the end of January. Unfortunately, I didn't find out until well past the editorial deadline. As a past regular of SE London, I felt it was important that we acknowledged his passing.

He was a one time regular of the SE London area but, stepped away from the SOC a number of years ago. No shrinking violet, his stag was naturally Java green and easy to spot when he was out and about! At one time he was a regular contributor to this magazine and was the man behind "Jackshaft", the incognito technical writer we had for a while. He was also 'Kryten' on the SOC forum. He had a wicked sense of humour and I think it was fair to say was sometimes seen as controversial in club circles, but he was always happy to help anyone inside or outside the club who had mechanical difficulties. As I understand it, he was at one time a foreman mechanic and certainly knew Stags and Triumphs in general inside and out, so he was a very useful chap to know at times! One of our current regulars has even said it was Russell that first introduced him to the Stag.



I've looked back through my old photographs and found this one of him. He is here way back in 2009 showing his sense of fun, saluting while helping to erect the club flag at the Bromley Pageant. He was often to be found tinkering with Stags on the club stand, he always found the lure of picking up a spanner irresistible, I even found a photo of him stirring his tea with a screwdriver! Russell, we salute you.



On a more celebratory note, two of our long-standing regulars Mike and Ann, celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary in early March. Congratulations from all of us. We'll even forgive you for missing the Club meet to go out and celebrate!

Chris has now compiled and distributed the events list for the area this year. If you don't have a copy, give him a shout. First up on the 6th April is the Heritage Transport Show at the Kent County Showground at Detling. I'm looking forward to this, it promises to be a good day out – as long as the weather is kind to us!

On the 21st I'm sure most of you know, is drive it day. Mike H and Chris are organising a scenic driving route to a pub aptly called "The Stag on the River". Food is booked for anyone who provided Mike with a deposit.

By the time you read this we will have had our first evening meal get together. We are headed for a Toby Carvery on the 14th March and I am certainly looking forward to it although I'm sure it won't do my waistline much good!

Dave H.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ 4th April: Monthly meet at the Bo Peep
- ✔ 6th April: Heritage Transport Show (Kent Showground)
- ✔ 21st April: Drive it day.
- ✔ 2nd May: Monthly meet at the Bo Peep

Chris Skinner

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## EAST SUSSEX

**H**i folks

Here we are at the start of the show season and by now you will have received the 2024 events list .

So far not a lot has happened this year, BUT Sunday the 28th April will be Drive it Day, Peter will be telling us details at the next meeting on the 13th of April, after which our first show will be the Magnificent Motors show in Eastbourne on the 5th May see you all soon Bryan

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ 13th April Breakfast/meeting
- ✔ 28th April Drive it Day
- ✔ 5th May Magnificent Motors
- ✔ 11th May Breakfast/ meeting

### EAST SUSSEX AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/east-sussex-area-homepage-2/>

*Bryan Gregory*

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## WEST SUSSEX

**O**ur delayed area AGM this year was carried out in mid February prior to a breakfast meeting at Tottington Manor. I was once again voted in as co-ordinator with Martin Hoad and Philip Kerrey as deputies. We also planned our events for 2024 and a full list has been posted on our web page on the SOC forum. There are some entry forms also on the web page which you must complete and get sent off if you want to join in with any of our show meetings, as the closing date is getting near. For Drive it Day on April 21 this year we are heading off to Denbies Vinyard in Dorking, we will meet up at the crossroads on the A24 by the Mac Donalds/ Petrol station also known as the Buck Barn crossroads at 10.30am, let me know if you are joining us so that we are not waiting unnecessarily . Then on to May 5 we are off to the Eastbourne Magnificent Motors and we will meet up at the entrance to the Industrial Estate just before the Caulfil tunnel in Lewes at 9.00am

Bob

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ April 2 Club night at Tottington Manor Edburton from 8.00pm
- ✔ April 21 Drive it day to Denbies Vinyard, Dorking
- ✔ May
- ✔ May 5 Magnificent Motors at Eastbourne
- ✔ May 7 Club night at Tottington Manor Edburton from

8.00pm

- ✔ May 19 Breakfast meeting at Heavens Farm, near Bluebell Railway then a pm visit to Sheffield Park and gardens N/T
- ✔ May 26 Cuckoo Fayre, Laughton

### WEST SUSSEX AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/west-sussex-area-homepage/>

*Bob Heritage*

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## KENT

**H**oward & Angie have returned from our Winter Sun Holiday, and it is great that new Deputy Co-ordinator Derek Hewett hosted the meeting at the Dog & Bear in Howard's absence.

Derek reported that twenty seven members attended our regular monthly meeting, which was no mean feat as 2 of the 3 access roads from the A20 were closed off and there was no entry to the Hotel car park from the Market Square. The mild, sunny, dry day and dry evening tempted a number of Stags from hibernation, mainly from the ever-faithful Kent North East Coast crew.

Thanks to Winnie for running the football team raffle, this was won —not the first time— by Mike Allen. The events programme was discussed, Drive It Day with a Cream Tea is heavily oversubscribed with a long reserve list.

Hopefully, when this report is published, we will have been successful in booking a larger room to accommodate everybody, but we have been hampered by the winter closure of the venue.

National Day at Brands Hatch was discussed, many people having already purchased their tickets, it looks like a well attended event. We will require some volunteers to assist with the two social events on Friday & Saturday and the Stag Run, as well as a few things on the SOC stand, such as the "Best Stag" competition.

The subject of the proposed option to have a reduced rate digital SOC magazine subscription option was discussed, but a show of hands indicated that all in the room enjoy the print magazine, with, if possible, the return of the classified ads and cars for sale sections. It was noted that the paper is now thinner to reduce the weight and postage costs. Following the formal part of the evening, there was plenty of time for general mixing and chat amongst the members.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ 21st April Drive It Day to Chiddingstone Castle
- ✔ 18th May Faversham Transport show
- ✔ 27th May Spring Fayre, Laughton East Sussex (new, recommended by Harry Stedman)
- ✔ TBC fish and chip run to the Coast

- ✔ 14th July National Day Brands Hatch
- ✔ TBC Treasure Hunt
- ✔ 11th August Motors on the Moat, Leeds Castle
- ✔ 18th August Penshurst classic car event (club stand Booked)
- ✔ 8th September Aylesford classics at the Priory
- ✔ 17th-24th September Isle of Man transport Festival
- ✔ 6th October Black Pulfrey Tour of Kent

Thanks, Derek - a great start to your Deputy Co-ordinator role.

**KENT AREA WEBPAGE**

<https://www.stag.org.uk/members-area/uk-area-websites/kent-area-home-page/>

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## SURREY

**W**e hope you are all keeping well and you've polished your cars over the winter period, spring is just around the corner. The 10th February was Triumph Day so we tried to find somewhere to go that people might recognise so we came up with Epsom race course, it turned out to be a very soggy morning but again it didn't seem to put members off, twelve cars turned up with a few new members that joined us for the first time,

always good to see new faces. We chatted for a while the photos were taken, from Epsom Downs we drove to Denbies in Dorking in convoy for coffee and cake. Apart from another impromptu trip to Denbies for a breakfast meet not much else has been going on but we have lots to look forward to.

**W**e had planned to join the Whitton parade for Drive it Day but they have decided they only want three cars one white one red and one blue so we have decided if we can't all go then none of us will go, so we have come up with a drive out to Sheffield Park and Garden, a National Trust property. We hope you can join us, details to follow. Please don't forget to buy your tickets for Brands Hatch to join us on the 14th July and remember to book your tickets with the Stag Owners Club, also the ticket sales are now open for the Cranleigh show on the 11th August and the Capel Show on the 17th.

**DIARY DATES**

- ✔ 21st April, Drive it Day meet up and drive to Sheffield Park, details to follow
- ✔ 22nd April, Meeting at the Fairmile from 7pm
- ✔ 12th May. Leatherhead Car show we join the Straight Six Club for the day a car show for Triumphs only.
- ✔ 20th May, Meeting at the Fairmile from 7pm

**SURREY AREA WEBPAGE**

<https://www.stag.org.uk/welcome-to-surry-stag-owners-club/>

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# OUT & ABOUT

## SOUTH WEST ENGLAND AND WALES

Regional Co-ordinator:

### WEST WALES

**T**he West Wales Area usually meets for our N&N on the second Tuesday of the month, at various venues, and in the summer months we plan an evening drive, ending at a suitable venue for food and socialising. Please get in touch with me for details of when and where we are meeting, or the venue for our N&N.

Our February N&N was held at The Lost Coins Pub in Haverfordwest, where a small number of us enjoyed a nice meal and convivial company. It was good to be joined by Frank Thomas, who has been a member of the SOC in West Wales for some time but hasn't been able to attend many N&Ns in the past until the WW Area was revived last year. Welcome back Frank, and we hope that you will be able to join us for many more to come.



At Laugharne Castle

Sadly, just over two weeks after our last N&N, we heard the shocking and devastating news that our Deputy Coordinator and Regional Coordinator for Wales and the South West, Paul Rowland, had tragically and suddenly passed away. Personally, I have welcomed and appreciated Paul's friendship and support over the past two years since joining the SOC, and during the process of re-launching the West Wales Area last year. We will miss his quiet, and caring friendship at our Area meetings and his knowledge and experience of things relating to the SOC. We all extend our sincere love and condolences to Paul's wife, Carol, and all the family in this time of their devastating loss and grief.

Looking ahead to future events, our next N&N is due to be held on Tuesday 12th March, at the Roadhouse Restaurant, Whitland, and the N&N for April will be held on Tuesday 9th April, at a venue to be arranged. Please get in touch, if you would like to make a suggestion for a suitable venue.

Before that, some of us in the WW Area will be taking our Stags to attend a display of classic cars at the Museum of Land Speed at Pendine on Saturday 6th April. Hopefully that will make for some interesting photographs for the next magazine. Hot on the heels of that event, we are looking forward to the National Drive It Day on Sunday 21st April, when the West Wales area will be joining forces with the South West Wales area for a joint drive up to Brecon, kindly organised by SWW Area Coordinator, Clive Perman. The details of the route have yet to be finalised, and will be sent out to area members by email and on our WhatsApp group nearer the day, but please get in touch with me if you haven't received these details by 14th April.

Looking even further ahead to May, we are planning to hold our first evening drive combined with our regular N&N on the evening of Tuesday 14th May. This will be held at the earlier summer start time of 6.30pm at a starting venue and destination to be arranged. Please get in touch with me for further details nearer to the date if you haven't heard from me by email. I'm also looking for ideas and suggestions for suitable venues and destinations for our drives and N&Ns for future months, so please let me know if you have any ideas, or if you would like to arrange a drive.

As a bit of personal indulgence, but with photographs to accompany this report in mind, I am including a photograph of my very enjoyable drive up to the British



Motor Museum for the Drive Your Triumph Day last month, which happened to be the first lengthy motorway journey in my Stag since its extensive engine and gearbox rebuild by Faversham Classics last year. Although I am still tending to drive it quite gingerly after such a major overhaul, it actually drove beautifully and returned around 31 mpg (and that's petrol, not oil as it was tending towards before the renovation!).

Secondly, my Stag has just celebrated its 50th anniversary of first registration on 5th March, and to mark the occasion I took it out on what seems to have been the first dry, sunny day in ages, for a drive to Laugharne, on the Towy estuary in Carmarthenshire. Still a bit early in the year to remove the hardtop, but hopefully if this weather continues, it won't be long before that comes off for the summer. It's pictured here with me in front of Laugharne Castle. This might be a suitable destination or passing point on one of our future drives. What do you think?

May I remind you that we now have a WhatsApp group for the West Wales area, so that we can keep in touch with updates, news, and general chat between area members. Please let me know if you would like to be added to this WhatsApp group.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ Sat. 6 April Display at Museum of Speed Pendine
- ✔ Tues. 9 April Natter & Noggin venue tba
- ✔ Sun. 21 April Drive It Day – Joint drive to Brecon with the SWW Area
- ✔ Mon. 6 May Swansea Classic Car Show Singleton Park
- ✔ Tues. 14 May Evening Drive and N&N destination tba
- ✔ Sat. 1 June Pembrokeshire Classic Car Club Show Carew Airfield
- ✔ Tues. 11 June Evening Drive and N&N destination tba
- ✔ Mon/Tues 8&9 July Llandeilo Classic Car Show
- ✔ Tues. 9 July Evening Drive and N&N tbc Llandeilo ?
- ✔ Sat. 10 Aug Aberaeron Vintage Show Llanechaeron
- ✔ Sun. 11th Aug. Classic Car Display Folly Farm, Begelly
- ✔ Tues. 13 Aug Evening Drive and N&N destination tba

**Nick Cale**

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**Email: nicholas.cale@icloud.com**

I was shocked to hear the sad news that our Regional Co-ordinator, Paul Rowland had died suddenly. I met Paul a few times and he was always enthusiastic about the club, the South West Areas and club events. Our thoughts are with his family at this difficult time.

It was good to see a superb selection of UK Triumphs on the Rye Livingston Drive Your Triumph Day website, including Stags from the Somerset & Dorset Area.

Just our March Sunday lunch to report this month, however, a very good turnout for a very good Sunday lunch. We even had three Stags in the car park which was wonderful considering the weather. It was good to meet Alan again who just popped in for a chat and had brought one of the Stags in the car park. We hadn't met since attending the Hillbrush Sunday Morning car meet in July 2022, hope you are able to join us again soon Alan.



*The 3 Stags that braved the floods for Sunday Lunch belonging to Jane, Alan and Garry.*

Only a couple of us continued on to see the snowdrops after lunch which meant everyone else missed the exciting drive through the flooded back roads that Ken and I navigated. I had only just cleaned my Stag but it definitely required another when I got home.

We will be moving back into summer mode for our N&Ns in April and return to our meetings at The Lime Kiln from Wednesday evening on April 10th from about 8:00pm. It has new management and is no longer a Butcombe pub. I am planning to eat so will be there earlier, let me know if you are also thinking of eating.

Pete has been in touch with Navy Wings at Yeovilton and they have confirmed we can visit on Sunday 21st April, which of course is Drive it Day. It will be a morning visit with us meeting in the car park of the FAA Museum at 09:45am and we will then drive in convoy onto the base and across to the Navy Wings hangar for a tour of the restoration and maintenance areas of the historic collection of aircraft, Swordfish, Seafire, Sea Fury, etc. We will need to supply various bits of info in advance for security checks so you will not be able to get in if you just

## SOUTH WALES

turn up. There is a maximum of 15 cars allowed so plenty of space if you would like to join us. Cost will be £10 per person and if there are any Navy Wings supporters it's free. After the visit we will find a pub somewhere for lunch which of course will have to be booked. Please let me know if you can join us or contact me for more info. If you just want to join us for lunch, let me know. Don't forget you can also get a Drive It Day car plate from the FBHVC to support the NSPCC's Childline, only £12.50.

We will have a joint stand this year at Classics at the Castle at Sherborne which is on Sunday 21st July. South Wales have organised a club stand and some of the S&D members will be joining them.

Instead of Sherborne last year, we attended the West Somerset Railway Rally at Norton Fitzwarren and enjoyed the day so we are planning to visit this year on Sunday 4th August. This is a very good show, free entry for exhibitors, with all sorts of older vehicles to wander round and see in the arena and some actually working in the field. We will have a club stand again so let me know if you can join us.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ Monthly evening N&Ns will be on the second Wednesday of the month from approx 8:00pm at The Lime Kiln Inn, Long Sutton, on the A372. Please check with Garry or Ken for the latest information on events to confirm we are attending if you are thinking of joining us.
- ✔ Wed Apr 10th - N&N at the Lime Kiln Inn.
- ✔ Sun Apr 21st – Drive it Day, visit to Navy Wings and pub lunch.
- ✔ Sat/Sun June 29/30th – Inter-club International weekend at Malvern Showground.
- ✔ Sat/Sun July 13/14th – SOC National Day at Brands Hatch.
- ✔ Sun July 21st – Classics at the Castle, Sherborne.
- ✔ Sat/Sun Aug 4th – West Somerset Railway Rally, Norton Fitzwarren.

**Garry Martin**

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**A**s I write this report in March, the weather is still cold and can be very unsettled. We still have our monthly noggin & natter meetings, but to get out and about with the Stags is rare at this time of year. On Sunday 3rd March the weather was forecast to be dry and sunny so I decided to call for an unscheduled Breakfast Meeting at short notice.

Well first of all the weather was indeed very sunny and dry, but there had been some gritting lorries overnight to make bringing the Stag out of hibernation difficult for some members. That said, the turnout was brilliant. We had 14 people with 4 Stags, 2 Jaguar XK, MX5, and a very rare early Honda Civic. (If I am not mistaken this Honda was the only one of this model in use in the UK). We met at the Secret Garden, a garden Centre near Usk in Monmouth. We parked up with the usual suspects Terry D & Bob H with their roof down, me with my soft top up and Bob D with his hardtop on. A very enjoyable breakfast and a good chat. A photograph of most of the cars is attached.

Our monthly noggin & natter took place on the first Tuesday of the month and we met as usual at the Crow's Nest Pub, Cwmbran. We were delighted to welcome again member Bob Hinton who had prepared a selection of questions for us as a quiz. It was a bit more than questions actually as Bob had spent a lot of time locating the sounds of car engines, planes taking off and railway engines. Unfortunately Bob was not just satisfied with answers such as "a plane" "a car" etc we had to say what car and what plane and what train they were. Clearly a lot of work had gone into this quiz and we were very grateful to Bob. Much discussion took place especially around the cars, and the winners were Bob Dowsell & Kelvin Chambers. Well done everyone.

This was the last of our winter meetings and from now on we will have Drives and outdoor events. Our monthly Tuesday meeting will start at 7.30pm normally except



*South Wales area out on their Run*

when otherwise notified .

We were very sad to hear of the death of Paul Rowland our Regional Coordinator for Wales and the West Country. Our condolences go out to his wife Carol and family, he will be sadly missed.

We welcome all members from the South Wales Area and beyond to our meetings and driving events. We meet in the winter for talks, quizzes and chats at the Crows Nest Pub, Cwmbran NP44 8HU. In the summer time we attend selected car shows, evening and day drives out in the beautiful Welsh and English Countryside. I keep in touch with members by email and we all keep in touch with each other by using our Area WhatsApp group. Anyone not receiving e mails from me or want to join in with the WhatsApp Group please get in touch.

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ Mon 1st April Coleford Carnival of Transport Meet there
- ✔ Tues 2nd April First Evening Drive Bob D.
- ✔ Sun 21st April Drive it Day Colin
- ✔ Sat 27th April SOCTFL AGM, Gaydon Motor Museum Colin
- ✔ Sun 5th May Border Counties Steam & Country Show Terry D
- ✔ Tues 7th May Second Evening Drive Andrew P
- ✔ Sat 18th May Panteg House Classic Show Terry D
- ✔ Sun 26th May Abergavenny Steam Rally Terry D
- ✔ Mon 27th May BH Vales of Glam. Show Sully Terry D
- ✔ Sat 1st June Mid Wales with overnight stay Garry Jones & Colin
- ✔ Sun 2nd June Mid Wales Run (cont) Garry Jones & Colin

### SOUTH WALES AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/south-wales-area-home-page/>

*Colin Evans*

*Mobile: 07870 654205 colincarnut@gmail.com*

## SOUTH WEST WALES

The South West Wales group meet on the third Wednesday the month. From May we normally have an evening run with a normal meeting place at junction 47 M4. Should anyone like to join us you would be very welcome but please contact me to check the meeting place and time in case it has changed. This year we have decided that through the winter we will not have a single venue but will try different places. If anyone would like to join us over the winter, please contact me first so that I can inform them of the venue.

On the 21st February we had our first N&N of 2024 we met at The Old Inn Penllargaer where we enjoyed very pleasant good food and a nice venue. During the evening we discussed the plans for the upcoming season and our next N&N. The weather on the evening was not great and was raining and very miserable. But we are in

Wales so that should be expected. I must say thank you to Anthony who made the evening even better by arranging a 30% discount off all the meals and I'm sure they tasted better because of that! Anthony will obviously be invited to our next N&N So our next event of this year will be the next N&N planned for 17th April, no venue has been decided on but a couple of venues were put forward. We were asked by Pontarddulais Classic Car Club to attend a display at Pendine Museum of Speed on 6th April which will be our first for 2024.

Clive Perman

### DIARY DATES

- ✔ Display at Pendine Museum of Speed 6th April 2024
- ✔ N&N 17th April 2024
- ✔ Drive it Day 21st April 2024
- ✔ Singleton Classic Car Show 6th May 2024
- ✔ N&N 15th May

*Clive Perman*

*Mobile: 07702 323491 clive.perman@ntlworld.com*

## CORNWALL

**S**unday 3rd March was another very wet day but a few determined members who came to the Lost Gardens of Heligan, meeting in the cafe for coffee. We decided to see if the weather improved after lunch (it didn't!) and, after much discussion and watching people trudging past the window in the rain, it was decided to leave a walk around the garden for a drier occasion!

### DIARY DATES

#### Next meeting:

- ✔ Sunday 7th April. Lelant to St Ives by train. Meet at the Badger Inn, Lelant, time to be confirmed. This is in the school holidays so numbers for lunch to Mark asap please, as booking is essential.

#### Forthcoming meetings:

- ✔ Sunday 5th May, Viv's charity pasty run. Meet Vince and Laura's 10.30 for coffee and to give your pasty orders. Leave at 11.30 for coastal run to Carleen Village hall TR13 9QP
- ✔ Sunday 2nd June Cotehele Tudor house, St Dominick PL12 6TA (National Trust) for picnic
- ✔ Sunday 7th July Meet Tregairewoon Farm Kitchen, Portscatho (for breakfast if wished) before run to St Anthony Head for picnic.
- ✔ Sunday 21st July Wadebridge Wheels
- ✔ Saturday 10th August Carnhell Green Charity Vintage Rally, Ashton, Helston, TR13 9QT
- ✔ Sunday 1st September, Finch Foundry (National Trust) - the last water-powered forge in England
- ✔ Sunday 6th October, Charlestown Harbour - UNESCO World Heritage Site

*Mark Colton-Taylor*

*07900 982762 cornwall@stag.org.uk*

## DEVON

**F**ebruary was a horrible wet month but we had a very pleasant morning at the Downes Golf Club at Crediton. Some challenges were faced getting there as there was flooding on several of the roads approaching the golf course, but everyone made it.



18 members turned up to show their skill on the Swing Studio golf courses - we went to Scotland and America and played some amazing courses. A very interesting and clever way of playing (and learning) the sport. We then enjoyed lunch in the restaurant which overlooks the very picturesque course. Very many thanks to Dave Taylor for organising this again for us.



You should by now have received the new programme via MailChimp or Facebook. If you haven't, or cannot download for any reason, do contact me and I will get a copy to you by another means.

A lot of work has gone into producing this and I am very grateful to those members who have volunteered to organise one of the dates. At the time of writing I'm hoping that someone will step forward to organise something for Drive It Day on Sunday 21st April, and an evening meet on Wednesday 14th August - this could be a drive or just a meal in a pub with a decent car park. Many thanks.



The show season is fast approaching. Do make sure you get your entries in early as these fill up quickly. I need your entries for The Crash Box Club Historic Vehicle Gathering 13-14 July by

MAY 11TH. We have our own in house entry forms for this and the RHS Rosemoor event on Saturday 27th July so contact me if you need one or both of these. On ALL show entries please put Devon Stag Owners Club on the top so that the show organisers put us all together. Thanks.

Have a good month and I look forward to seeing you at some of the events listed below.

Claire

### DIARY DATES

- Thursday 4th April. 7pm North Devon N and N at the Crealock, Littleham EX39 5HN
- Sunday 7th April Run and lunch at The Castle, Berry Pomeroy. Booking essential for lunch.
- Wednesday 17th Meeting for all those going to France in May at 7pm at the Star at Liverton TQ12 6EZ
- Sunday 21st April Drive it Day. At the time of writing we are looking for a volunteer to organise something. Look out for MailChimp letter.
- Sunday 28th April SW Classic Car Club meet at Trago Mills 9am- 2pm. Come and go as you wish. £2 entry for charity.
- Thursday 2nd May North Devon N and N at the Crealock Arms as before.
- Wednesday 8th May N and N at the Dartbridge Inn, Totnes Road, Buckfastleigh TQ11 OJR. Kindly organised by Vernon and Jacqui. Booking essential if you wish to eat.

### DEVON AREA WEBPAGE

<https://www.stag.org.uk/devon-home-page/>

Claire Purser

Mobile: 07768 848676 [devon@stag.org.uk](mailto:devon@stag.org.uk)

## BRISTOL

New Co-ordinator required





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"I originally approached my household insurer but although they covered the cost of re-building and the tools contained within the garage, they wouldn't pay for any vehicle parts or accessories. I just happened to meet Emma at an event and told her I was unhappy that I couldn't claim for my A30's lost spare parts under my household policy. She immediately told me to put a claim in with RH.

"As good as her word, she put me in touch with RH's claims team the day after the show and I made a successful claim for the spare parts which had gone up in smoke – as per the terms of my policy!"

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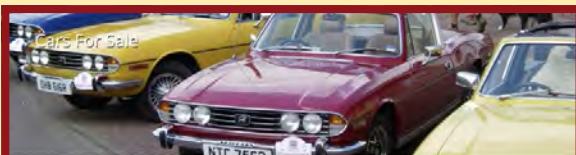
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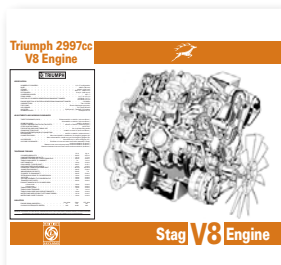
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