



Malvern Hills Branch Newsletter

February 2020



Welcome to the February branch newsletter.

Dates for the Diary for 2020

Saturday 8th February

Meeting at Rowberries Chaddesley Corbett about 12ish

Thursday 12th March

Evening meeting at the Huntsman at 8pm with a talk by Mr. Max Hunt who is going to give us a talk on Herbert Austin and the Longbridge Works.

Thursday 9th April

Evening meeting at the Huntsman at 8pm with a talk by the Air Ambulance.

Thursday 14th May

Evening meeting at the Huntsman at 8ish

Sunday 17th May

Our Branch Rally at Burford House near Tenbury Wells

Welcome to the first branch newsletter of 2020. We have already had our first meeting of the year at Croome Court, which was not as quiet and peaceful place to have a meet up and a chat as it once was. To be honest it felt more like a pre-school play group and was generally a bit packed out. We will look for another venue for next year. Any suggestions? Already the first of the spring flowers are starting to show, and the mind starts to turn towards warmer days. We have arranged the venue for our branch rally, its Burford House again. More details to follow.

Bob has sent me info on a Radiator Repair company, see advert at the bottom of this newsletter

Dave

Treasurer's trivia

Hello everyone,

I am starting to write this with some longed for dry weather outside. It has certainly been the wettest period we have experienced since moving to the cottage with the fields behind us severely flooded for weeks on end. As I have mentioned in the past I try to run the cars on a regular basis through the winter to keep the petrol fresh. The wet weather has certainly hindered that over recent months. It has been a quiet period for maintenance with the fitting of a new front wheel cylinder on the 948 being my only work of late. I am now very much looking forward to the year ahead with the days getting longer and the delights of Morris Minor motoring just around the corner.

Our final event of 2019 was our Christmas meal. On the whole the feedback I received indicated the majority of members very much enjoyed their meals. In particular, those with specific dietary requirements were extremely well looked after. There were a couple of aspects that could have been better and I quite appreciate how some members felt; we would have certainly benefitted from being in a larger room and it was a somewhat long wait between courses. I am sure I speak for everyone when I express the gratitude of the branch to Maurita for yet again producing a wonderful gift to everyone this time in the form of a sleigh made from various types of chocolate bar.



These were wonderful and we thank her for such a kind gesture. Finally, my appreciation to Chris for his assistance in organizing our meal.

Our January meeting was our annual visit to Croome. Although a murky day I was keen to take the 948 along as did most other branch members. On turning into the car park it was quite a shock to see just how full it was and I wondered if I would find somewhere to park. Luckily I found a space but it did mean members having to squeeze in their cars wherever they could find room. As you can imagine the thought crossed my mind that if the car park was this busy what would the café be like? Help was at hand though as Richard, Jeff and Julie were already there and keeping some spaces for members. We had a terrific turnout with some 25 members including 3 of our friends, Ian, Dave and Sue, from Birmingham branch.

With the café so full it did mean many members having to find a seat where they could. It was great to see branch member, Bob Hancock, looking so much better after his recent hip operation. Quite a few members used the opportunity as in other years to visit Croome after our meeting. It is wonderful to see Croome so successful, however, I am thinking now that it is perhaps time to consider an alternative close by that is somewhat more peaceful where everyone can get together without problem but still visit Croome afterwards. This is something we could no doubt discuss at the next AGM.

Wheel Cylinders- This will not apply to many of our members but it is worth knowing that the original aluminum front wheel cylinders for the Series MM and early Series 2 cars up to

December 1953 are available again. I had been looking to have some of my old ones reconditioned as new ones had not been available for some time but will of course not need to now. East Sussex Minors have them for anyone interested.

New member- A warm welcome to Edward Redmond from Bromsgrove who has joined us. Edward has a 1961 2 door and we look forward to seeing him and his car in the near future.

Branch Rally- Our rally this year will be a return to Burford House at Tenbury Wells on Sunday May 17th. Although well to the outskirts of our area for most members the journey there is through wonderful countryside and the setting for our rally is absolutely lovely. As I write this Bob is preparing entry forms which should be ready by early February. I should have some with me at the next meeting; cost of entry will be 6.00 pounds as in previous years. There will be an excellent memento for all entrants. As with when we visited Burford House last time we will be making a donation to the Greenfingers charity which supports gardens at hospices for children.

Branch meetings coming up- Our February meeting will be on Saturday February 8th at Rowberry's garden center, Chaddesley Corbett. Meet up about midday. We normally have something to eat and it makes for a very pleasant get together. The March meeting will definitely be one to put in your diary. We go back to evening meetings and on Thursday March 12th we are delighted to be welcoming back Mr. Max Hunt who is going to give us a talk on Herbert Austin and the Longbridge Works. You will remember Max visited us last year and gave us a talk on the Shelsleys' and the Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb. He is a first class speaker who holds your attention and I am sure will be immensely interesting. The talk will be in the Skittle alley at the Huntsman and will start at 8.00pm.

Auto jumble- If you fancy a mooch around an auto jumble there is one at the Three Counties Showground on Sunday March 8th. It runs from 9.00am-2.00pm and costs 7.00 pounds to enter.

Branch Membership- Thank you to members who have recently had standing order forms from me to pay their annual membership. This will be a real help to me when I have the rally to deal with. Membership is due on March 1st. Subscriptions are 5.00 pounds for an emailed newsletter and 10.00 pounds for a posted one. I have received a new rebate form to use this year which now includes a column to insert members National Club renewal date. This will mean that I will require members who came to our January meeting to sign again to cover this meeting. Please can you bring your national club membership card to the next meeting you attend so that I can confirm the renewal date for insertion on the rebate form.

That's all for now, see you at Rowberry's.

Dave

Bobs Dates for your Diary 2020

Note that all Branch events (in bold) take place at The Huntsman except where otherwise indicated. The committee is trying to arrange Speakers on Branch evenings: these will be notified as and when they become firm.

- **Saturday 8th Feb: Branch Meeting at Rowberry's Garden Centre near Chaddesley Corbett**
- Sunday 8th March: Auto jumble- Three Counties Showground It runs from 9.00am-2.00pm and costs 7.00 pounds to enter.
- **Thurs 12th Mar: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman with a speaker**

- **Thurs 9th Apr: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman.**
- Sun 12 Apr: Easter Sunday
- Sun 26th Apr: Drive it Day: get your Morris Minor out and drive it – anywhere!
- **Thurs 14th May: Noggin 'n Natter**
- **Sunday 17th May Malvern Hills Branch Rally at Burford House**
- 2 Jun: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 11th Jun: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 16 Jun: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 9th Jul: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 21 July: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 13th Aug: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 18 Aug: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- 8 Sept: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 10th Sep: Branch Meeting at the Huntsman**
- 22 Sept: Classic Cars at The Mount Pleasant Public House, Wombourne WV5 8BH.
- **Thurs 8th Oct: AGM at the Huntsman**
- **Sat 14 Nov: Noggin 'n Natter (tbc)**
- **Dec: Christmas Meal (tbc)**

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